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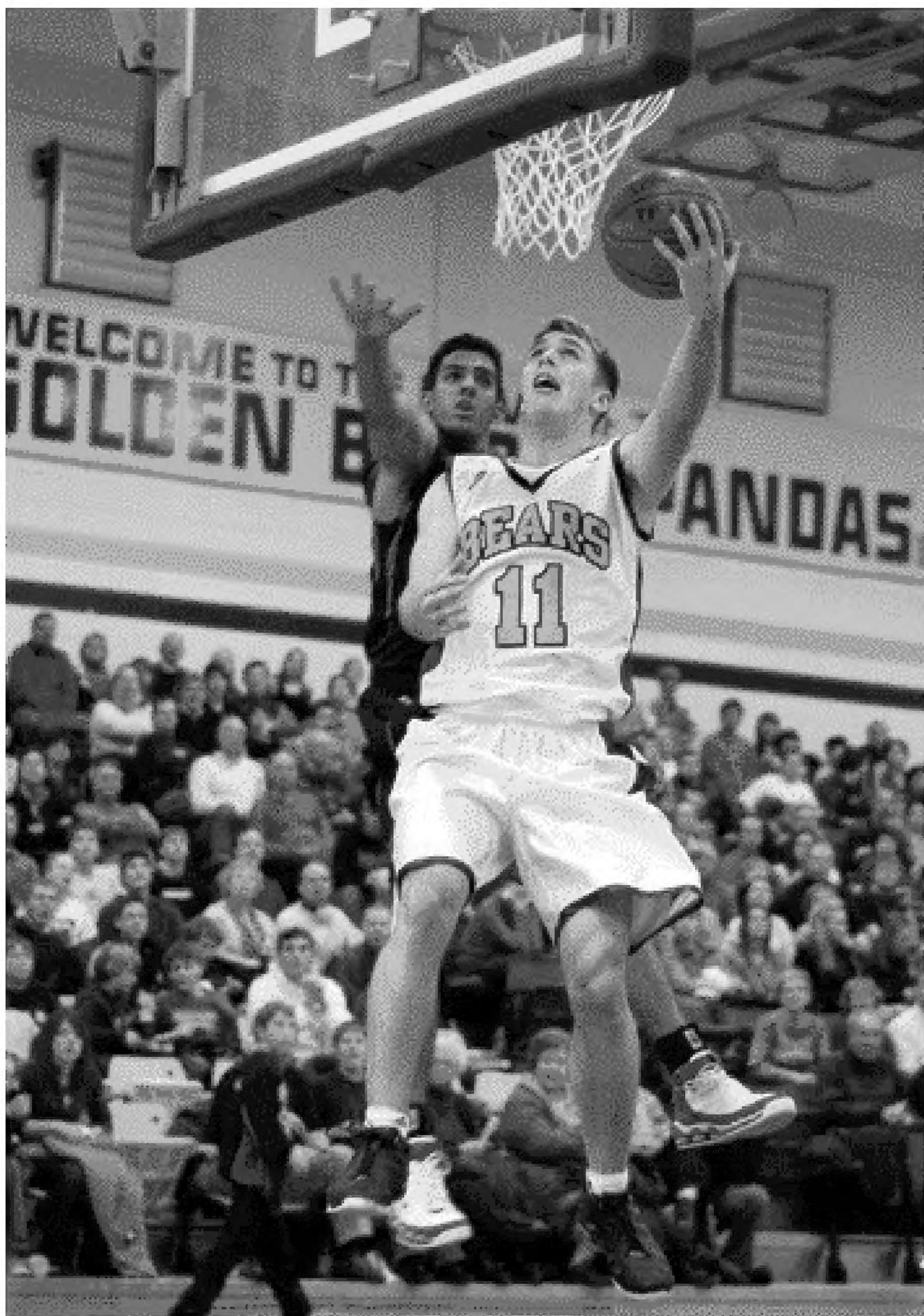
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PETE YEE

IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE ... No, it's Alex Steele making another lay-up. Later he left a tall building.



ANDREW RURAK

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE THIS BALL Michelle Smith (white) stares down a double team this weekend.

Hoop squads play meteor to Calgary's Dinosaurs

Man of Steele's big weekend leads Bears to triumph over Dinos

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

Alex Steele's play on the weekend left the Calgary Dinos wishing they had some Kryptonite.

Steele certainly looked faster than a speeding bullet on the offensive end this weekend for the Golden Bears basketball squad, putting up 35 points on both Friday and Saturday nights and shooting 13-14 and 10-15 respectively, as Alberta (5-3) swept the Dinos (3-5) out of the Main Gym.

"I was taking my time catching the ball and trying to make the right decisions. Everything was flowing for me tonight and it felt good," said Steele, who led the Bears to a 94-79 on Friday and a 100-70 win on Saturday.

With the stands packed on both nights due to a promotion with the Edmonton Youth Basketball Association, Steele delighted the crowd by slashing to the basket at every opportunity and converting lay-up after lay-up on Friday, then switching to the long-ball on Saturday draining five of six attempts from downtown.

"We know [this is] what Alex is capable of. That's why when we see him get two points and six turnovers, and do nothing for a game, we can't win with that," Alberta head coach Don Horwood said.

"Maybe we have to get [a sold-out crowd] out here every night to get [Alex] to play like that," teammate Scott Gordon added. "His play was overwhelming."

Calgary's inability to defend Steele, or just about anyone else as the Bears shot over 55 per cent in both games, left head coach Dan Vanhooren frustrated.

"We didn't play any defence whatsoever all game

long, whether it was in the post or on the perimeter of the floor, and they did what they wanted to do," Vanhooren said after Friday's game. "Steele got to the rim every time he wanted; we ended up with far too many guys getting shots from exactly where they wanted and let them move the ball wherever they wanted.

"If I had my druthers, I'd be making them do defensive stances and some slides," he added.

Vanhooren declined to comment after Saturday's contest.

For Horwood, the weekend sweep marked the best basketball he has seen from his team so far this season, and proved they could play with consistent intensity.

"We had effort on defence, we got to the glass really well; our guys obviously came with a lot of energy," he said of Friday's win. "Effort can make up for a lot of mistakes, and tonight, effort made up for our mistakes."

Saturday's game also proved that the Bears were capable of winning back-to-back games, a problem the team has battled since last season, when they followed a Friday win with a Saturday loss six times.

"I was really worried about coming out flat after [Friday's] win, but I was really pleased," Horwood said after Saturday's game. "The big thing at our level is what goes on between the ears, and we have to be mentally ready."

"The team aspect was there this weekend," Gordon added. "We haven't been able to get five guys on the floor all going towards the same thing, and [this time] that happened."

The pair of victories in combination with Saskatchewan's weekend split with Lethbridge leaves the Golden Bears all alone atop the Canada West Mountain Division standings.

High tempo and physical play keys to Panda's victory over rivals

JANELLE SLOYCHUK
Sports Writer

Amid the chaos and clamour of several hundred underage Panda fans hailing from the Edmonton Youth Basketball Association was the rancour and roughness resulting from a classic Battle of Alberta. The basketball Pandas aided their cause for provincial supremacy by taking a pair of games from the University of Calgary Dinos in the Main Gym this weekend.

Although the first of the weekend's games saw the Pandas struggling to overcome the Dinos' similar style of play in a 90-82 victory, Saturday revealed an Alberta team able to tackle the challenge of controlling the momentum of the game.

"I thought we played right to the buzzer [Saturday]," Pandas head coach Scott Edwards said. "We tried to slow it down, see if they could score in the 60s and see if we could hold them down."

Alberta did keep their opponents below 70 points in the second game, coming out on top of a lopsided 79-60 score, but certainly didn't look like a team aiming to slow the pace as they came out flying and posted a 25-19 lead after the first quarter.

The Pandas continued to spread the ball around on offence, much like they've done all season as Patricia Ariss dropped 24 on Friday, accompanied by Michelle Smith's 19. Kristin Jarock and Ashley Wigg led the way on Saturday, with 22 and 17 respectively. Smith added six rebounds and three steals per game on the weekend.

"Both [games] were pretty high paced," Smith noted. "But [Saturday] we were able to settle

down in defence and slow up Calgary's pace a little."

The effects of Alberta's pressure defence Saturday were certainly clear on the court as it resulted in 23 turnovers for Calgary and inevitably a little rough play. With nearly twice as many personal fouls than Alberta, Dinos head coach Shawnee Harle admitted that Calgary was unable to "roll with the punches."

"I felt the officials let it be very physical and I didn't think we responded very well to that," Harle said. "I thought the nature of the calls worked to our disadvantage, but once again, credit to Alberta, they adjusted to how the officials let the game be called."

The results of the physical play awarded Alberta 66 free throws over the entire weekend and the Pandas drilled 49 of them. The rough style of play was indicative of a pair of teams without a true centre. Both teams battled for rebounds all weekend: at one point Ariss and Calgary's Rebeckah Heninger collided mid-air chasing a loose ball.

"Calgary is a tough physical team; they're undersized just like we are, and that's the way both teams really need to play," said Edwards, who commented on how violent the collision between Ariss and Heninger looked. "It's good, hard-nosed basketball."

"Against Calgary, it's always a big, brute battle, nice and physical," Wigg added. "They're coming after us; they need a win, and it's a lot rougher."

The Pandas play forced Harle to admit that her team was overmatched this weekend.

"I don't think we played well all weekend but you have to give Alberta credit—they didn't let us play well," said Harle. "We just got overplayed all weekend."



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Ariss takes care of trash for Pandas

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

In her first two years in the Alberta Pandas basketball program, Trish Ariss had a hard time earning minutes as she bounced in and out of the lineup. This season, however, the third-year post has firmly entrenched herself in the starting five with vastly improved play.

"I had a lot of trouble in my first and second year with the mental part of my game, and over the summer I worked on it. [Now] when I'm shooting, I don't get frustrated as much," she says. "In my first year I used to get so nervous. Now I just go with the flow."

"It's mostly maturity; I've grown up a lot since my first year. The process of learning is what's helping me improve."

Ariss has earned her way into the starting lineup with her aggressive defence and physical rebounding. A position switch to playing in the post full-time has helped her make the most of her talents, according to Alberta head coach Scott Edwards.

"We moved her from the four to the five, and what it's done has allowed her to stay more around the rim, and she's a freaky rebounder within five feet of the rim. She's so strong, she just powers through people," he says.

The move has helped Ariss on both ends of the court. She's averaging career highs in points (12.5 per game) and rebounds (5.9) in only 20 minutes per game, and has led the team in both three times this season.

"I like [playing the five]. It's a chance for me to beat the bigger girls down the court—I get a lot of fast-break layups," the third-year from Calgary says of the position switch. "I feel that I'm quicker than a lot of the girls I play against, which is a big benefit to me because I can get around on defence and I can beat them down the floor. As for rebounding, all that is hard work."

Edwards attributes Ariss' improved offensive game to her skills as a rebounder, especially on the offensive glass, and her ability to get to the



ANDREW RURAK

TAKING HER LUMPS Trish Ariss fights off a fouling Calgary defender.

foul line.

"She's a banger inside. I know she's got a nice jump-shot and everyone sees that, but she does a better job rebounding for us and that's why she's been so successful," he says. "She's a garbage-point girl. When she gets to the rim, she's great."

While Ariss is leading the team in points per game, neither her nor her coach sees that as her primary objective when she's on the court.

"We need her to defend hard in the post. Her and [fellow post Kristin Jarock] have to defend hard for us and they've got to stay out of foul trouble, or we're in trouble. We're not very big, and they're so strong inside and move their feet so well. She's got to

continue to do that all the time and be a defensive stopper," Edwards says, noting that the team scores by committee and that if she's not the one making baskets, someone else will.

"My biggest goal is not to get beat on defence. Supporting my teammates is another goal of mine. I always want to work on staying positive with the girls when I'm frustrated with myself," Ariss adds.

While Edwards acknowledges Ariss does the little things well, he'd like to see her jump-shot become more reliable, but the notion draws a laugh out of Ariss.

"Scott tells me that I float and drift and fade back and everything else on my jumper, but if it goes in ..."



MIKE KENDRICK

THE PEP RALLY

Written by Paul Owen

Bears Hockey

The Golden Bears (10-2-2) took to the frozen field of battle and proceed to slaughter their opponents: the piddling Thunderbirds of UBC. Alberta took Friday's contest 5-1, before an eight-goal outburst for a 8-2 victory on Saturday, their largest this season.

Bears Volleyball

Alberta (8-0) continued to prove that they, and not Trinity Western (5-1), are the best team in the country with another weekend sweep, this time over the Saskatchewan Huskies, 3-0 and 3-1. It was only the second set the Bears have lost all season.

Pandas Volleyball

The ladies (8-0) were also successful in Saskatoon, where they maintained their

perfect record this season by downing the Huskies 3-0 and 3-2 this weekend. The pair of victories rounded out a perfect weekend for Alberta teams.

Vanier Cup

Saskatchewan just didn't have a good weekend at home. First their volleyball teams get swept by Alberta, then their football team chokes in their third straight Vanier Cup, losing to Laval 13-8. And if that weren't bad enough, they have to live in Saskatoon.

Saskatoon happy hosts of first Western Vanier Cup

Sellout crowd watches Laval beat Sask in the cold

CHARES HAMILTON
The Sheaf

SASKATOON (SPECIAL TO CUP)—The University of Saskatchewan Huskies may have been defeated by the Laval Rouge et Or in Saturday's championship game, but that didn't stop Saskatoon from making football history.

"They promised us that they were going to turn this year's Vanier into a football festival, and they have done just that," said Michel Belanger, media and publications director for Canadian Interuniversity Sport. "It is going to be legacy for the University and for the city of Saskatoon."

This was the first time the Vanier Cup championship was played outside of Southern Ontario, and with the success of this weekend's event, there's a chance that the Cup will be seeing more of Canada in the near future.

"We are getting exactly what we were looking for in moving this event outside of the big cities," Belanger said.

Since its inception in 1965, the Vanier Cup was played exclusively in Toronto until it moved just down the highway to Hamilton for the 2004 and 2005 games. With the CIS already looking for ways to revitalize the Vanier profile, it was an attractive bid from the University of Saskatchewan in 2003 that convinced chief organizers to hold this year's event in Saskatoon.

"We've tried moving it outside of Toronto with okay success—now we knew it was time to move it outside of Ontario," Belanger said. "We saw an occasion. Here we have Saskatchewan, who is known to be the most football-crazy province—what better opportunity?"

Former Huskies athletic director Ross Wilson made the U of S bid for the championship and was instrumental in getting the championship to Saskatoon. He sees the city as the perfect place to hold an event like the Vanier.

"Our team has done so well over the years and Vanier is a well-known word in this city—it wasn't like it was going to be a tough sell for us," he said.

Comparing it to events like the Brier and even the Grey Cup, Wilson explains that Saskatoon is a prime location for the Vanier Cup because, unlike other larger cities such as Toronto, there are no pro teams or other large-scale events threatening to steal the spotlight.

In 2000, he was a member of a national task force that examined the way in which the CIS held its championships. They found that the championships would fare better if they were moved around the country, and

it was on this principle that he made the U of S bid for the Cup.

"We were critical of having it in Toronto," Wilson said. "We felt that the Vanier Cup was lost in a huge city with so many things to do. In our bid, we convinced them that it would be a festival, a three-day event, not just a football game."

It appears they have delivered what they promised. Despite freezing temperatures, the game unfolded before a capacity crowd of 12 567. That was far from a record, but it was less than a thousand off from average attendance at Vanier Cups in the past decade in Southern Ontario—mostly at the cavernous SkyDome.

"There have been larger crowds at Vanier," Wilson said, referring to the crowd of 32 000-plus that filled a little over half of SkyDome for a Saskatchewan-Western showdown in 1994, the first Vanier Cup held at what is now the Rogers Centre. "But for our size of community, this is great."

Outside of the gates, the town was abuzz with Vanier fever—there was no doubt that it was the biggest ticket in town.

There's also no doubt that the success of this year's Huskies football club helped bolster the event. But Wilson is confident the event would have been a success regardless of who was playing in the big game.

"We were already sold out before the football season started," he said. "Of course, if the Huskies weren't in it, I think we would [have] seen more empty seats."

It seems the only thing working against event organizers this year was the weather. On game day, there was a -30C wind-chill, and the weather did have an obvious effect on the low-scoring game.

But the full extent of the weather's effect is still unknown, and Belanger explained that his organization will need more time to properly evaluate the pros and cons of hosting the Vanier in a smaller, colder city like Saskatoon.

"We came here expecting colder weather," Belanger said. "But we will have to talk to some of coaches and see if what the trade-off really is."

Next year, the Vanier Cup is going back to Toronto to coincide with Grey Cup weekend, and the year after that to Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium, but Wilson hopes the success of this year's Vanier encourages other smaller centres—like Québec City for the Rouge et Or—to host future events.

"There are lots of groups who are here seeing how we did it," he said. "I think this game will move around the country in the coming years."



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

EIGHT ISN'T ENOUGH Lindsay McAlpine (16) watches the puck slide towards the UBC net on Saturday night.

Hockey routs exhibit lack of parity in Canada West

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

UBC goalie Lisa Lafreniere allowed seven goals and was peppered with 30 shots in only the first period during Saturday's game against the Pandas hockey squad. Yet instead of sulking in her locker room stall after the game, Lafreniere distributed homemade cookies to teammates and joked about the one-sided game, which the Pandas went on to win 10-2.

Despite losing by eight goals, the upbeat attitude of the Thunderbirds isn't unfathomable when you consider how often Alberta blows out their opponent; though, the seven-goal explosion in the first period of Saturday's game was the most offence the high-scoring Pandas have generated in a single period this year.

"That was an outstanding period; I don't think you can get much better than that," Pandas head coach Howie Draper noted. "We were moving the puck, moving our feet, getting lots of shots and putting away the rebounds—it was all just falling in place."

Lafreniere, who was pulled from the game after the first period Saturday, explained that that first period was likely the toughest she's had as a CIS netminder.

"Thirty shots in a period is difficult considering you might normally face 30 shots in a whole game," Lafreniere said. "I thought our team showed a

lot of character to rebound from that and the first period wasn't to the point where it was bringing us down."

With the victory Saturday night, Alberta completed a weekend sweep of UBC after a 7-1 victory the previous night. The Pandas improved their regular season record to 11-1 and remain perched atop the Canada West standings, eight points ahead of the Regina Cougars. While Alberta proved their penchant for goals again last weekend, the 10-2 drubbing may bring accusations that the Pandas are out to embarrass their opponents. But Draper noted that his team has been high-scoring for many years and has never been accused as such.

"I've never heard any other team say that [we ran up a score]," Draper said. "Maybe the people who are sympathetic to the opposition [are concerned about it] but we can't stop playing simply because we're winning by a large amount. Down the road we're preparing for playoffs and we can't prepare for that if we're taking it easy on other teams."

Lafreniere, who took the brunt of the Pandas' offence, agreed with Draper's sentiments as did UBC head coach Dave Newson.

"They've got to play their game," Newson added.

More concerning than Alberta being on the winning side of some one-sided games this year is that there seems to be less parity in Canada West

this season than there was last year. In 2004/05 it was common for the Pandas to beat their opponents by eight or nine goals, but last season the league was much more competitive. Newson voiced his concern about the lack of balance this season, and mentioned it's a challenge Canada West hockey has to resolve.

"[The disparity is a] credit to Alberta's program," Newson said. "Obviously it's not good when there's that kind of disparity, but we want teams like ourselves, and the other teams in the league, to catch up, but we don't want [Alberta] to fall back because that's not good for the sport or the conference."

He suggests Canada West should focus on preventing the best female hockey players from leaving the country to play south of the border in the NCAA.

"They've got to look to better ways to keep the top players in Canada, whether it's scholarships or those types of things," Newson said. "Alberta has demonstrated an ability to keep local talent in the area and other schools need to do that as well."

Draper also pointed out that the competition has improved since women's hockey first started.

"Our league every year gets a little bit closer, and I certainly think things will continue that way," Draper noted.

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Everybody's working for the Wii-kend

Whether they were actually working or not, Gateway writers **RYAN HEISE, RAMIN OSTAD AND MIKE SMITH** were definitely having fun playing with their new Wii-Wiis

There's been plenty of skepticism about Nintendo's new console, the Wii. With its remote-shaped controller and motion sensing capabilities, people are dying to know whether this crazy contraption is actually worth the price (a hefty \$279) or if it's just another Virtual Boy.

The console itself is very small—about the size of a DVD box set. GameCube legacy ports on top of the unit, and the SD card port on the front, are both hidden under panels. Nintendo appears to be taking a cue from Apple by using a bright white plastic shell and clean lines, as well as a slot-loading optical drive.

The unit also uses a new type of controller: the Wii remote and Nunchuk attachment. The remote is small with a trigger on the bottom, a D-pad and several face buttons on top. The Nunchuk acts as the left side of a more traditional controller, with an analog nub and two trigger buttons. The controllers are comfortable, but the remote suffers from poor button placement, something that could be troublesome for certain games.

The motion-sensing, on the other hand, feels entirely intuitive. Although the sensitivity varies on a game-by-game basis, when done right—such as in first-party games like *Wii Sports*—the Wiimote has the potential to single-handedly revolutionize how games are played.

Of course, no console launch would be complete without a selection of launch titles. We decided to take a look at some of the more prominent titles and how each one uses the remote's functionality.

Wii Sports

The Wii comes pre-packaged with *Wii Sports*, a disc that contains five games: golf, tennis, baseball, bowling and boxing. Each game uses the remote to emulate the actual sport, albeit with varying levels of accuracy. Golf is the most complete game of the bunch and provides a fairly enjoyable nine-hole experience, though it doesn't always detect the strength of your swing very well. Boxing is the only game that requires both the remote and Nunchuk, each of them acting as your boxing gloves. The baseball game is a fairly shallow affair where the remote is simply your baseball bat. Once you learn to time your swings, there's not much left to do. Bowling, however, can be a lot of fun. You play by raising the remote to your chest, and using it as your bowling ball, lowering it and releasing it at just the right time. You can also add spin to it

by twisting the remote upon release of the ball. Of all the games, tennis is probably the most intuitive, and for those new to the console, it offers an easy introduction that will most likely get you hooked.

Wii Sports is a perfect game to package with a Wii, as it really shows off the functionality of the remote. It's just too bad it couldn't have more depth.

Red Steel

When the unique control scheme of the Wii was announced, no other genre showed more promise than first-person shooters, which are typically cumbersome on consoles. However, they seemed to translate perfectly to the Wii, with aiming handled by the remote and movement by the Nunchuk. Ubisoft's *Red Steel* garnered much attention for this very fact. Coupled with the addition of first-person swordplay, *Red Steel* could have been one of the must-have games for the console.

Sadly, it will

only go down in geek history as one of the worst launch titles ever.

This game is indescribably bad. From the sub-par graphics and horrid controls to the half-baked *Yakuza*-stole-my-girlfriend storyline, the whole game falls flat on its face from the get-go. Even the menu system is convoluted and awkward.

If by some miracle you get past the menus and have the patience to sit through the godawful opening, you're provided with muddy graphics and controls that make you wonder how Ubisoft could ruin something as simple as point-and-shoot. Waving the remote frantically to attempt to turn and face your foe results in either spinning in place, or your crosshair sluggishly crawling across the screen while you're being fired at. In all, *Red Steel* is nothing more than a poorly executed and unsuccessful game.

The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess

Originally planned for a November 2005 release as a GameCube title, *The Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess* was instead delayed a year and moved to the

Wii as the killer app for the console's launch. Now the question weighing on the minds of *Zelda* fans is how well will the title transfer to the new and innovative Wii.

Fortunately, *Twilight Princess* delivers in a way that only a first-party Nintendo game can.

While the controls initially feel tacked on with the Wii version, they grow to be incredibly nuanced. A simple flick of the remote will swing your sword, though not in a one-to-one manner, which many had hoped for. But this motion allows for more buttons on the remote to be freed up and used for other tasks, such as equipping other weapons.

The remote can also be used for smaller tasks such as fishing, aiming slingshots and bows, and locking onto targets. All of these work flawlessly and create an incredibly deep play experience.

While the graphics are definitely reminiscent of the GameCube, mediocre textures are balanced with vibrant colours, excellent lighting and varied environments.

With over 70 hours of game play, *Twilight Princess* is Link's biggest and arguably best adventure yet, and clearly the must-have Wii launch title.

Excite Truck

Excite Truck isn't a game for simulation lovers. It takes very heavy liberties with concepts like reality and physics. At its core, *Excite Truck* is a game for speed lovers who desire to suddenly spin wildly out of control.

This feeling is a direct result of the way the game controls. The remote is held sideways with the face buttons up. The 1 and 2 buttons serve as your gas and brake, respectively, and you steer by tilting the controller left and right. Hitting any direction on the D pad kicks in your turbo boost. When you hit a jump, you have control over your airborne truck by tilting the controller forward and back.

The controls aren't difficult to get a grip on, but they're far too sensitive. Tilt the controller an inch and you'll veer you into a tree. This leads to the games out-of-control feel, which can be exciting one moment and infuriating the next. Handling mid-air turns, for example, doesn't feel consistent from jump to jump. There's no real indication that lets you know whether you're tilting just enough or too much.

What you end up with is a fast-paced arcade racer that may keep you amused for a while—especially in multiplayer—but probably not for as long as you'd like. If the controls had been a little tighter, it may have made for a better experience.

Rayman Raving Rabbids

Rayman Raving Rabbids is probably the most unique launch title on the Wii.

The story goes something like this: one day during a picnic with his Globox friends, Rayman and the Globoxes are kidnapped by a group of blue-eyed, bunny-like creatures called Rabbids. The Rabbids desire to take over the world and, fearing his skills, force Rayman to entertain the Rabbid masses through gladiatorial combat.

Unlike previous games in the *Rayman* series, *Raving Rabbids* pits Rayman in a series of 70 highly amusing and completely random mini-games, each using the functionality of the Wii remote and Nunchuk in unique ways.

In one hammer-throw-type game, you spin the remote around as Rayman violently twirls a cow over his head while attempting to time the release the bovine just right. Another forces you to defend your carrot juice stand from snorkel-mask wearing Rabbids by pumping the Nunchuk to spray juice into their masks, effectively drowning them. But some of the most fun comes from the pseudo-FPS games in which you ward off Rabbids by firing plungers with the remote.

All of these games are short and sweet, but the formula would get tiring if it wasn't for how hilarious the Rabbids are. The antics of these adorable, masochistic creatures never gets old, especially considering every game is named after something they can't do. For instance, the cow toss is called "Rabbids don't know what to do with cows."

Raving Rabbids exemplifies the Wii's functionality. All of the mini-games are intuitive and interesting. While some may make your arms sore, you'll be too busy enjoying yourself to care.



MIKE OTTO

Shake that money-maker

Book review: *The New Capitalists*

Written by Stephen Davis, Jon Lukomnik and David Pitt-Watson
Harvard Business School Publishing
On sale now

PATRICK ROSS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

We're the owners of a multi-billion dollar corporation and we don't even know it. At least, this is the message of Stephen Davis, Jon Lukomnik and David Pitt-Watson's *The New Capitalists*.

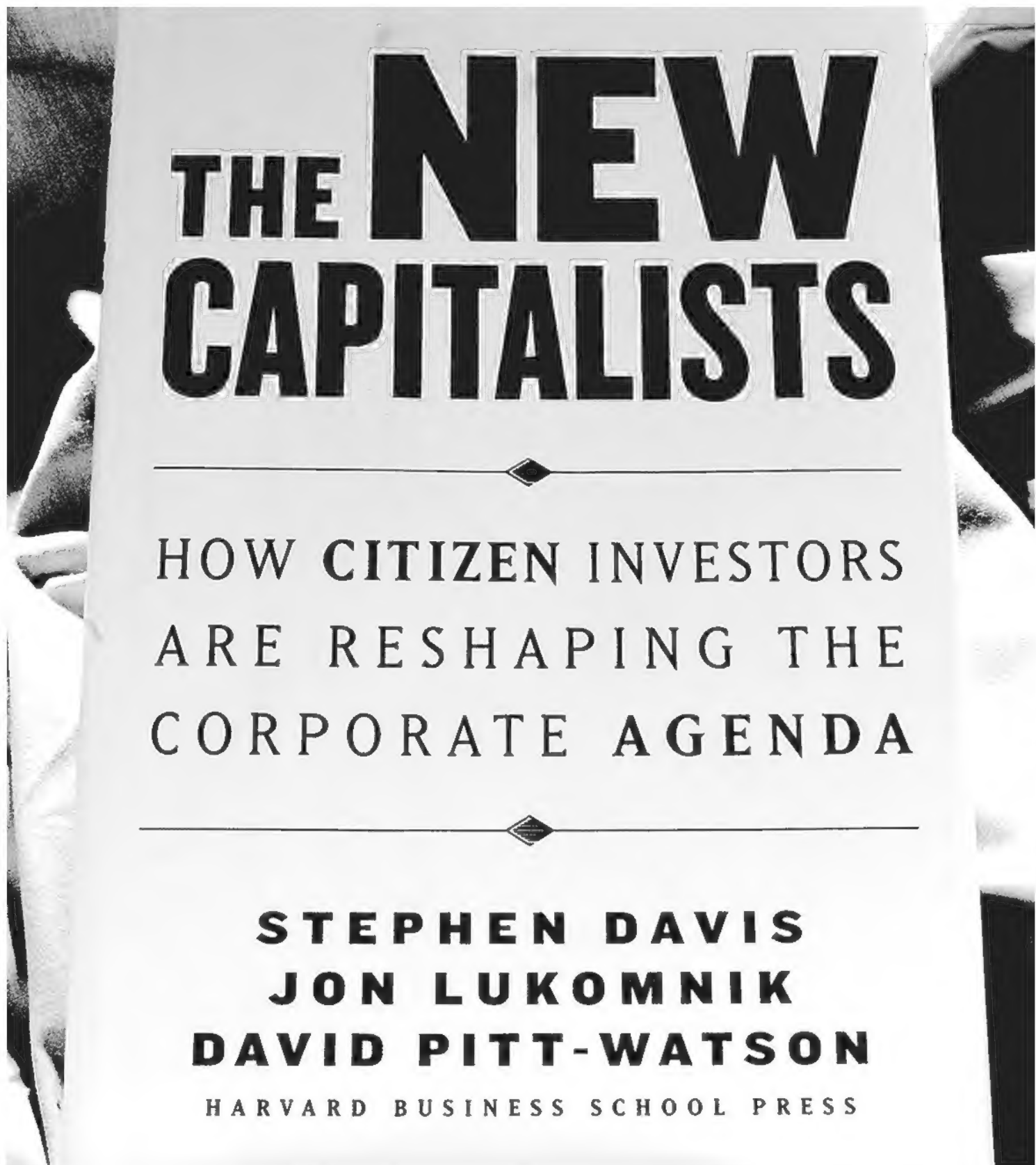
According to the book, regular people are gaining the power to influence corporations. Investments made through mutual funds and retirement plans are becoming underused juggernauts of the global economy, when really they can often be a force for the common good. In the end, citizen investors—the new capitalists alluded to by the book's title—are becoming a force to be reckoned with.

Or at least they will once they realize it.

The New Capitalists is a must-read for anyone involved in, or planning to become involved in, any kind of long-term investment.

Davis, Lukomnik and Watson argue that the prevalence of middle-class investors and the sheer magnitude of their retirement investments have brought the private and public sectors together to form something they call the "civil economy." In the absence of dominant majority owners, middle-class investors have assumed the burdens—and benefits—of ownership of the world's corporations, and, through this, have inherited the right and responsibility to dictate the future of a democratized global economy.

According to the authors, citizen investors have their work cut out for them. The task before them involves eliminating mismanagement by corporate managers, reacquainting big business with the necessity of creating value and profit for its investors and, ultimately, wresting power away from



KRYSTINASULATYCKI

MONEY MONEY MONEY *The New Capitalists* are you and me. Cool, huh?

corporate CEOs and putting it into the hands of the owners—us.

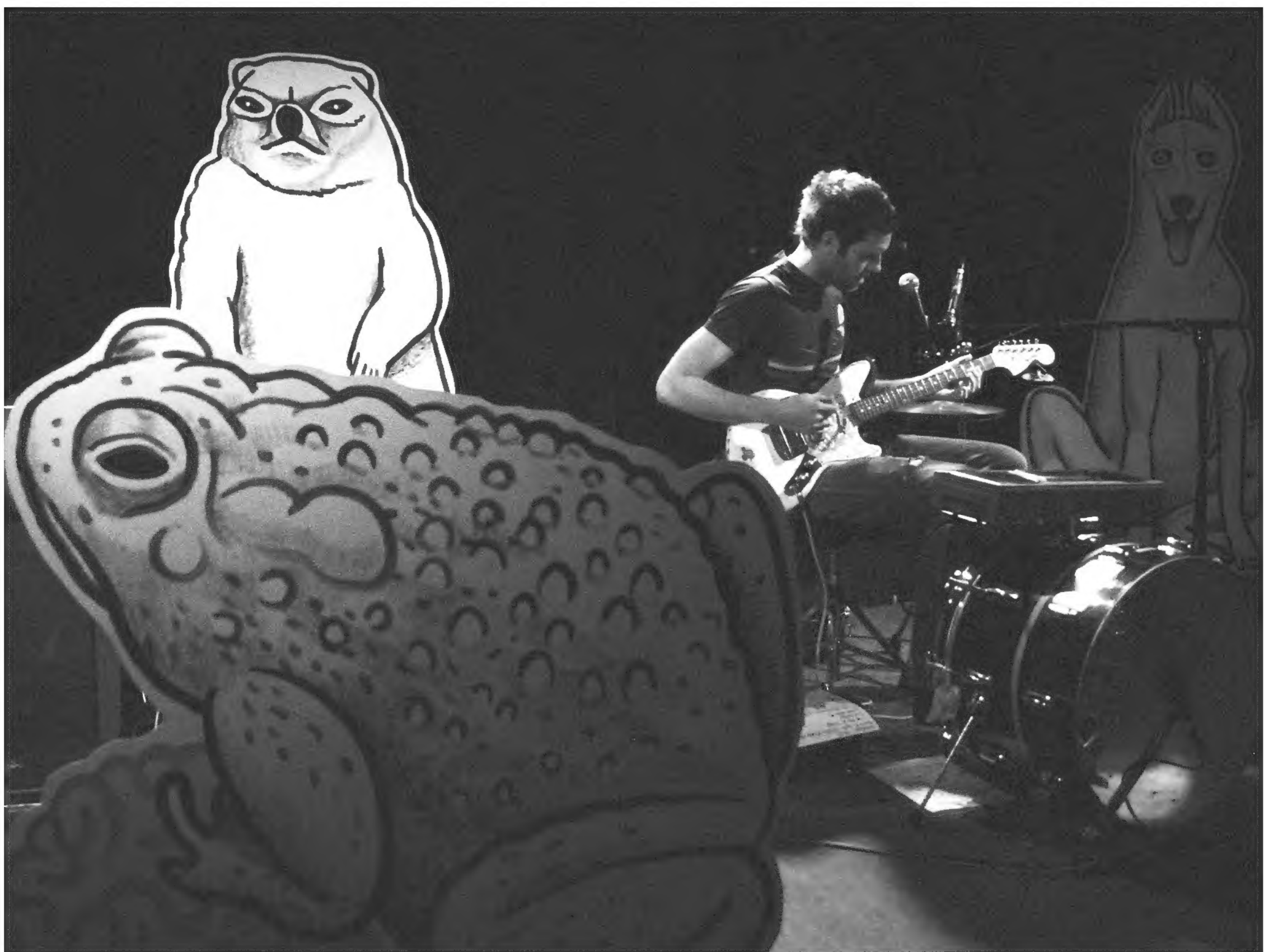
The authors typify corporate boardrooms as wrought with irresponsibility, incompetence and entitlement. The structural components of the stock market and of the investment industry—that are meant to protect civilian investors—have long been undermined by conflicts of interest. Too often, motives related to personal profit are overshadowing the responsibilities of corporate executives and their watchdogs—namely to ensure that value is created and profit delivered to shareholders. The stakes for the citizen investor is high, indeed; aside from the damage that can be done—and often has been done (Enron, Worldcom)—by irresponsible corporations, a constant theme of the book is "no profit, no pension."

The authors argue that citizen investors need to force corporations to adhere to the New Capitalist Manifesto. Under this doctrine, big business would be more responsible to their owners, employees and the communities in which they operate.

Corporations would be required to control their own growth, maintain their organizations through a process of constant renewal, seek government regulation when self-regulation proves insufficient and accept accountability for the organization's actions.

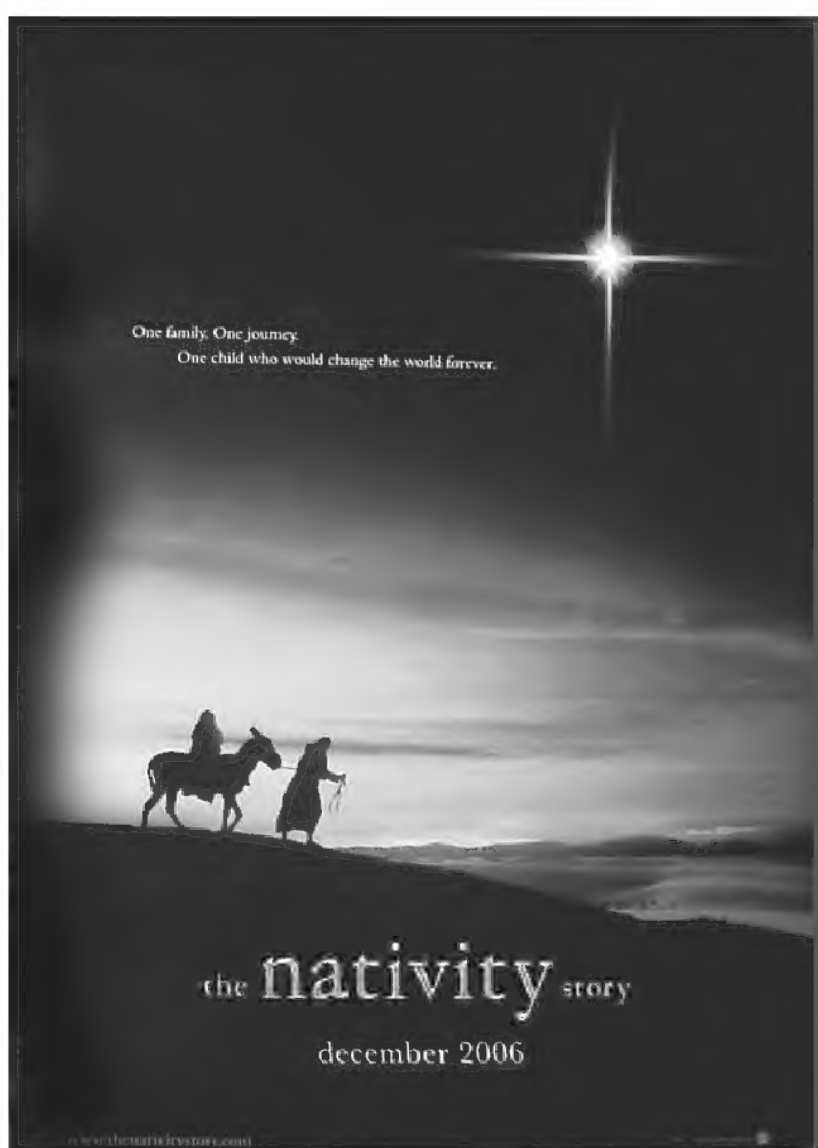
Of course, the book isn't all doom and gloom as far as the current investment market is concerned. The authors outline several corporations who have responded to demands made by active citizen investors and paid attention to social interests.

The New Capitalists is a must-read for anyone involved in, or planning to become involved in, any kind of long-term investment. Davis, Lukomnik and Watson provide an indispensable overview of the pitfalls of investment, as well as a daring strategy for the redesign and revitalization of the global economy. More important still, *The New Capitalists* delivers a message of empowerment for citizen investors, providing a vision of a future in which major corporations are beholden to ordinary people, not the other way around.



MATT FREHNER

AFTER THE AFTERLIFE Badgers and frogs accompanied Chad VanGalen's home-spun tunes at the Sidetrack on Friday.



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the nativity story
december 2006

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Wintersleep

Wintersleep
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PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Staff

On their self-titled second release, Wintersleep have delivered an album that knows when to pull its punches and when to fight with everything they have.

Propelled by its machine-like drumming, "Dance Macabre" stutters and struts along for two minutes before dissolving into an echoing sonic landscape, while "Nerves Normal, Breath Normal" expands and collapses for seven minutes. The album burrows itself into your subconscious, riff by riff, melody by melody.

Speaking of being imbedded, there's even a secret track included on the album for your listening pleasure. It's not the typical "wait-three-minutes-after-the-last-song" kind of secret track; instead, this one's actually hidden. Without spoiling the fun, there are two hints that should help: one, the secret track is not at the end of the album, and two, you can't get to it via iTunes or a computer. Happy hunting.

Wintersleep

With Vail Halen
Thursday, 30 November at 8pm
Starlite Room

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Wintersleep: the very moniker invokes images of a northern Canadian snowstorm, both calm and fierce in its beauty. It may come as a slight shock, then, to hear that the band hails not from the north, but from the east—Halifax, Nova Scotia, to be precise.

And just as the alt-rock quartet has chosen a moniker that prevents them from being pigeonholed into some sort of musical category, they're helping to throw every stereotype of Atlantic Canadian music out the window—except for, maybe, the zealous pride adherent to Eastern fans.

"People from Atlantic Canada are very overly supportive of Atlantic Canadian acts," admits bassist Jud Haynes over the phone from a diner in Montréal. "Atlantic Canadians are very spread out across Canada, but are very, very patriotic and proud of home. So as we've been travelling around, we run into people from all the Atlantic provinces, in cities all across Canada, and they come out to shows in full force.

"In the beginning days, we'd go out and play our first show and the bar would be packed. But local people wouldn't realize [that] half the audience is from Halifax," Haynes laughs. "So it's worked out great for us."

Wintersleep consists of Haynes, singer/guitarist Paul Murphy, guitarist Tim D'Eon and drummer Loel



Campbell. They come from all walks of the Canadian music scene—Haynes was in hard-rock act Bucket Truck, while Campbell is a part of dance-rock group Holy Fuck—and have been described as having a unique sound, both heavy and delicate.

Their brief, three-year existence has yielded two melodic full-length albums and with it extensive praise, which Haynes attributes to the rising popularity of the Canadian independent music scene.

"[With] the indie scene in Canada now, every band is different," Haynes explains. "You look at Wolf Parade and the Arcade Fire, or Metric, Broken Social Scene, Black Mountain and the Constantines: no two bands sound the

same. They're all totally different, and I like to think that we don't sound like any of those bands either.

"All those bands are lumped into the same category," he continues. "But everybody's doing their own thing. It's cool that there's been a whole resurgence in Canadian music, yet it's not because of any one sound. It's because a lot of bands are doing interesting things right now."

Praise for Wintersleep hasn't been limited to Canada, either. The band recently completed their second trip across the pond to Europe, an almost inconceivable feat for such a young act.

"We just started getting some e-mails from people who were like, 'Hey, I'm in Switzerland and I like

your band. I have a friend who books this festival and it'd be really cool if you guys could play it,'" Haynes explains. "We just wrote him back and said 'Really? Well, what do we have to do to make this happen?' [Then] we just went about booking it all ourselves."

Booking two European tours on your own might not seem like a typical move for a band, but Wintersleep doesn't seem to follow any preconceived notion of what a group should or shouldn't do. It's a risk they take, and according to Haynes, "You never know what to expect, until the doors open." But if the past is any indication, Wintersleep will weather the storm.



Come on down, the ice is right!

What is Antifreeze?

AntiFreeze is a campus-wide student competition that pits teams of 10 students and 3 alternates against each other in several challenges at both outdoor and indoor venues. The payoff? Earth-shattering prizes and bragging rights for twelve months. That's 365 long, taunt-filled days.

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Applications can be submitted to Business Manager Steve Smith or Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner by e-mail (biz@gateway.ualberta.ca or eic@gateway.ualberta.ca) or in hardcopy (Room 3-04 Students' Union Building).

* Complete job description (subject to change) is available at www.gateway.ualberta.ca/gsj/s/

THE GATEWAY



MATT FREHNER

CITY SLICKERS Edmonton-based City Vox might be a new group, but they're no stranger to the musical back alleys.

City Vox shapes its voice

City Vox

With Black Berry Traffic
Tuesday, 28 November at 9pm
Sidetrack Café

BRYAN SAUNDERS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In 1959, British musical-equipment manufacturer, Vox, released the very first AC-30 guitar amplifier. This seemingly simple event changed music history forever. The Vox AC-30 was used by such legends as The Who, the Beatles and Jimi Hendrix, and has even been attributed to their success.

In April of 2006, Edmontonians Patrick Gilmour (vocalist, guitarist), Mike Swanson (guitar, vocals), Chris Biggs (drums) and John Procyk (bass) of the newly formed band, City Vox, recorded their very first song, "I Am Waiting." They later went on to record three more songs, soon releasing their first demo CD.

While the historical magnitudes of the second event may not yet be clear, one thing is: according to Mike Swanson, City Vox have got a handful of tunes, pretty much cracker-jacked, ready to go into the studio to record

sometime in the next few months, and the band has four more up their sleeves.

"I'd say these [four] upcoming recordings will definitely have a bit of an edgier sound to them," Swanson says. "The previous four tunes were heavily influenced by Patrick's solo songwriting approach. And now that we have the influence of our bass player and drummer, we have more of a rock sound."

And just as the quartet's sound is constantly changing, the ever-shifting forces of nature—and resilience of a serving job—are what brought City Vox together.

"The nice thing about working a job like that ... is it gives you the flexibility to play, it's good money and it's something I can pick up or leave at anytime," Gilmour says. And I went 'Okay, well here's the time now. I'm gonna pick up and I'm gonna leave.'

"The other big thing for me was that my girlfriend really gave me a push. She said, 'Look, you've been doing this for a long time; you've got the songs, you've got another guitar player and you've got Mike, who plays great guitar, so just do it. Why aren't you doing it?' And so I did."

From there, an ad in the paper was placed for a drums and bass, and as fate would have it, John Procyk and Chris Biggs fit the criteria.

While for most musicians rounding out a solid lineup is the hardest task to accomplish, Gilmour and Swanson had bigger fish than that to fry—or at least so they thought.

"I think the biggest obstacle for me was myself, really," Gilmour says. "I wanted to be playing music as a career. I wanted to be playing shows, meeting people and interacting with people. I wanted to be making a difference in some kind of way. I wanted to use my gifts to their fullest potential. Now, I just love the direction that we're headed, and it feels really good."

"I guess it was fear for me," Swanson says. "Fear of seeing what I could really do, and I was always coming up with excuses why not to go forward, to pursue. And then beginning to play with Patrick and really solidifying it with the other two guys in the band, it really feels like I'm spreading my wings. I think the feeling we're all getting is that this is the best thing we've ever been involved in."

The arts aren't going to bite



MARIA KOTOVYCH

I feel sorry for Whyte Avenue. It's developing a reputation as a place where people get drunk, get stabbed and start riots on Canada Day, or when the Oilers make the playoffs.

Yes, these things do happen, and it's unfortunate. But Lord Strathcona doesn't need to start turning over in his grave just yet. After all, not everyone who heads to Whyte and its environs on Saturday night is going to get smashed.

Whyte Ave, Old Strathcona and the University area are bursting with local theatre talent. The stage has a strong presence in those parts of the city, and it can actually be cheaper to attend a play than to catch a movie at the multiplex or to spend an evening at the bar. Student discounts make it even better for the likes of us. Not only that, but when you leave a play, your eardrums will still be intact.

What puzzles me is that theatre,

and the arts in general, still intimidate some people who are reluctant to attend a play, a symphony or a jazz concert because they don't think they'll "get it." These people think that art can only be enjoyed and appreciated by those with some kind of training in theatre-watching or jazz-music listening. Old Strathcona falls victim to yet another stereotype, and this time, it's taking Edmonton's entire arts scene with it.

What puzzles me is that theatre, and the arts in general, still intimidate some people.

Edmonton's arts scene is unpretentious and accessible, and that's the biggest reason why I love it. I've never felt the need to wear an outfit made by some swanky designer to a play, and I've never felt that other arts patrons at events were sending me a vibe saying, "Ooh, look at me, I'm such an *artiste* and you're nothing but a bum from the unwashed and uneducated masses."

I've met people who're intimidated

by the arts, and similarly, I've met others who feel that they wouldn't "fit" into the arts crowd. These people don't attend plays, concerts or visual arts displays for this reason. However, I would like to assure these people that the arts crowd is as varied and diverse as any other, so newcomers to arts events don't have to worry. They'll fit in just fine.

The arts also have the unfortunate reputation of being stuffy and boring, again deterring many people. The beauty of a city like Edmonton is that everyone can find something that appeals to his or her tastes. The arts scene is no exception. The plays that I've seen in this city, for example, have ranged from edgy and racy to hilarious and laid-back. I've seen timeless classics and I've seen pieces written by local authors. There are many genres from which to choose.

An open mind is the only thing that's essential to enjoying the arts. It allows a person who's new to the arts to overlook the pigeonholing and appreciate the uniqueness and beauty of a work. So if you've felt frightened by the arts in the past, why not try attending something? And hey, if nothing else, it'll definitely beat studying for finals.

free stuff



If you want to see Van Wilder: The Rise of Taj (screens Thursday, 30 November at 7pm at City Centre) come up to 3-04 SUB and claim your double guest pass. First come, first served.

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Saturday, December 2

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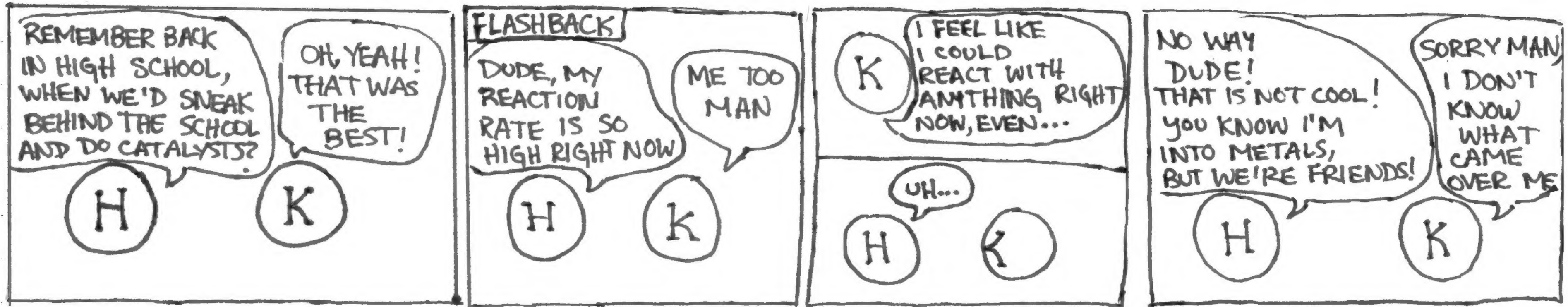
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Saturday & Sunday, December 2 & 3

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Library Craft Sale 29-30 November, 2006 9:30am - 3:30pm. Professors Emeriti Reading Room 3-03 Cameron Library Free Admission/Door Prizes.

Red Deer College Study Tours RDC in Kenya 28 April - 27 May, 2007. Principles of Ecology (BIOL 318) OR Indigenous and Cultural Minorities in the Modern World (ANTHRO 327) Maasai Centre, Maasai Mara, Tsavo National Park and Indian Ocean Coast www.rdc.ab.ca/continuingeducation RDC in Honduras 29 April - 13 May Cultural Immersion (INTD 301) Organized by the Faculty of Nursing for those with an interest in cultural and health care issues. www.rdc.ab.ca/continuingeducation

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Campus events and more...

HIV Edmonton, Change for Children, Oxfam Canada present We Are The Remedy on Thursday, 30 Nov, 7-11pm in Remedy Cafe 8631 109st. There is no cost to attend this event. On the eve of World AIDS Day, Edmonton-based organizations concerned with combatting the AIDS pandemic will collaborate to raise awareness, share information and promote increased action to build a stronger network in Edmonton that is working to eliminate HIV/AIDS locally and globally. Since HIV was first identified a quarter of a century ago, it has been a stigmatized disease, resulting in silence and denial. You can help to break this silence. Halting the spread of HIV means that nations must more than double global development assistance in the next few years in order to reach this goal by 2015. Featuring speakers on HIV/AIDS and music by JuLez, Shima & Freshly Squeezed. Share, listen and discuss experiences and ideas about HIV/AIDS. Free admission. For more information, please contact Jessica Warren at 232-5026.

A Journalists for Human Rights presentation in support of Global Minds/Mentes del Mundo presents Working for Human Rights with Local Words and Overseas Action on Saturday 2 December 2006, Doors at 8pm Show at 9pm in Starlite Room. There is no cost to attend this event. Radiovacana, Emcee_E and the Hidden Gemz, Jesse Dee Three Tix \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door Available at: Listen Records, Blackbyrd, Megatunes, SUB Info booths. A portion of the funds will assist JHR with their January conference "Informed Ignorance: the effects of today's Global Media", and a portion will assist Global Minds in their health and education work in Ecuador. For more information, please contact (780)439-8754.

Golden Key International Honour Society presents Campus Textbook Drive Supports Goal to End the African Book Famine on 4-22 Dec, 2006 in Drop boxes in CAB, SUB, JW Scott Library, and Tory/Business Atrium. There is no cost to attend this event. The Golden Key International Honour Society and Circle K are proud to bring "Books For Africa" to the University of Alberta! During December and early January, we will

be accepting textbook donations on campus. These textbooks will either be shipped to various African nations, or the profits from the sale of non-qualifying books will be used to directly impact literacy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Please donate your textbooks to this cause by dropping them off in one of the drop boxes to be located in HUB, SUB, JW Scott Health Sciences Library, or the Tory/Business Atrium. All students are encouraged to consider donating their textbooks to Books For Africa. One small donation can go a long way towards increasing literacy in the developing world. Please see <http://www.BooksForAfrica.org> for more information. For more information, please contact Rahim Kachra at goldnkey@ualberta.ca.

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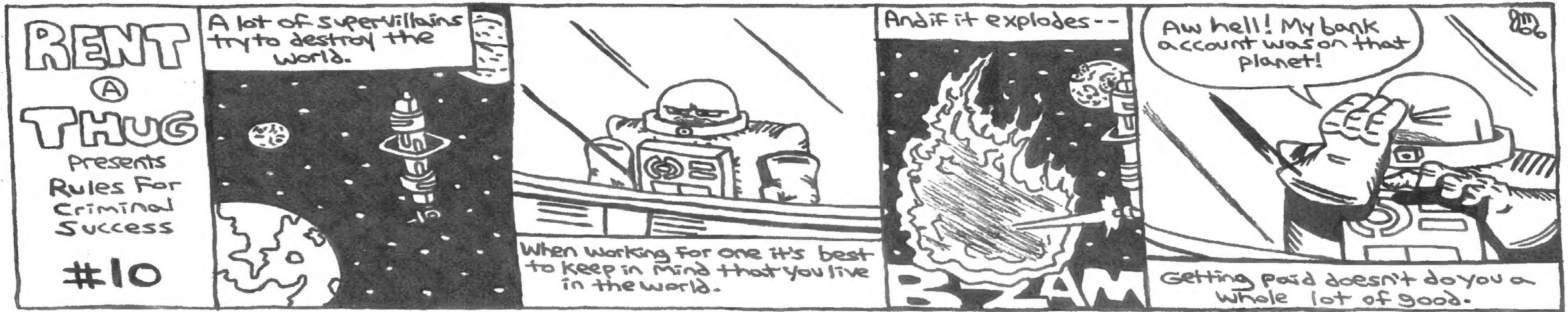
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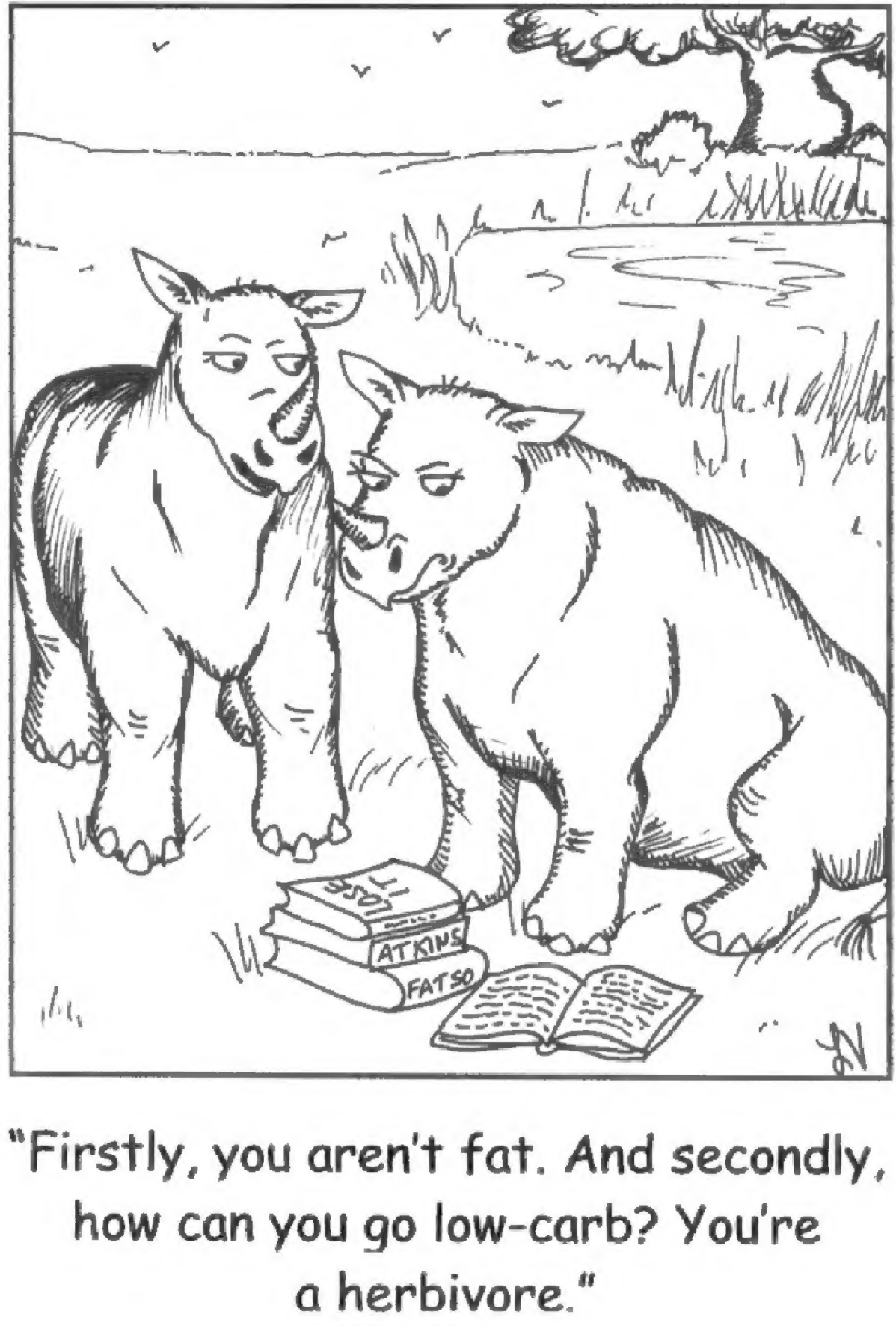
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GRATUITOUS GROANERS by Philip & Graeme Head



SYNAPSE by Liv Vors



STEVE NASH LIVING & LOVING by Braden Deane (CUP)



THE GATEWAY

volume XCVII number 22 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ tuesday, 28 november, 2006



PETEYEE

Survey probes education attitudes

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

A recently released study has evaluated the attitudes of Canadians on the education system in the country, and finds that many have concerns about accessibility to postsecondary education.

The study, released by the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL), was designed and administered jointly with Statistics Canada. While the report covered everything from early childhood learning to occupation-related instruction, strong opinions were found relating to postsecondary education, said Bob LeDrew, Senior Media Relations Specialist for CCL.

"The poll looked at questions such as how important the postsecondary sector is to Canada," he said. "It sounds like Canadians are hugely supportive of postsecondary education."

PLEASE SEE SURVEY ♦ PAGE 4

DOWNING THE DINOS The Pandas beat Calgary twice this weekend, capping off an undefeated weekend for the U of A teams. Full coverage on page eleven.

Opinions divided on mentorship program

ROBIN COLLUM
News Staff

A new mentor program put forward by the Alberta government aims at getting children to think about their postsecondary plans at an early age.

While some say the mentorship program will establish the importance of further education in the minds of grade-school children, some are saying that the initiative is a distraction from other, larger issues.

SU Vice-President (External) Dave Cournoyer has panned the provincial government's new mentorship pilot program, saying that the government should instead focus on making post-secondary education more affordable to potential students.

The recently announced program, which will team up elementary with high-school students mentors that will provide them with information on their options after graduation. The program begins its three-year trial period in February.

"It's great to get young people to think about postsecondary education when they're younger," Cournoyer said. "But if [postsecondary is] unaffordable to [potential students] when

it comes to the point when they want to enter the system, then it's not going to make much difference."

In Edmonton, the program is being run by Big Brothers Big Sisters, while Calgary's program is headed by the Boys and Girls Club.

"If [postsecondary is] unaffordable to [potential students] when it comes to the point when they want to enter the system, then it's not going to make much difference."

DAVE COURNOYER,
SU VP (EXTERNAL)

The Ministry of Advanced Education will train high-school volunteers, who will then be matched up with children from their communities. They are also providing the funding for the \$200 000 program.

PLEASE SEE MENTORS ♦ PAGE 2

Online tests hoped to click with students

RYAN HEISE
News Staff

With the multiple-choice examination. That's what a group of researchers at the University of Alberta hope to achieve by developing new ways to administer tests to students.

A research team headed by Dr Anup Basu, a professor in the Department of Computer Science, is looking into whether or not exams that have a large multimedia component are better able to hold the attention of students and more accurately assess their knowledge.

"The idea is to get away from the paper and pencil type tests that we have been doing all along and not just have multiple choice, because that is kind of boring, but be very interactive," Dr Basu said. "People can drag and drop things, they can play games, and in the process get tested."

The exams being developed differ from traditional in-class exams, as they use many multimedia components that allow students to interact with each question. For instance, instead of simply being asked the chemical composition of a substance, students are prompted to build a model by selecting and connecting different on-screen molecules. Questions such as this are currently only developed for use on computers, but in the future,



SHAHEED MERANI

NO MORE PENCILS, NO MORE BOOKS At least for tests, if Basu can help it.

Basu hopes to be able to send the exams over a network to a multitude of devices, including cellphones.

Testing will also be scalable for each student. As questions are answered correctly or incorrectly, subsequent problems will change in real-time to accommodate the student's level of knowledge.

"[W]e want to tailor the test to a student's ability. If the questions are too hard we make it easier, if the questions are too easy we make it a little more difficult," Basu explained.

However, this isn't to boost the scores of students who are not prepared

for the exam, but rather to allow them to stay focused on their task by not making them discouraged with questions they can't answer.

Dr Irene Cheng, the program's director of research, explained that a new methodology of scoring the exam would take into account the real-time tailoring rather than just a raw score as current exams do.

The system would be based around item response theory and also allow examiners to see whether or not students are simply guessing on certain questions.

PLEASE SEE EXAMS ♦ PAGE 2

Inside

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Who's the liberalest?

Is it the Academic? The Frenchman? The Goalie? Our writers give you the skinny on who should lead the Libs.

OPINION, PAGE 9



A Wii-valuation

Our A&E writers—and all-around gaming experts—didn't go out of their way to test drive the new Wii.

A&E, PAGE 14

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Chem 101/103, 161/261

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Phys 130, 230

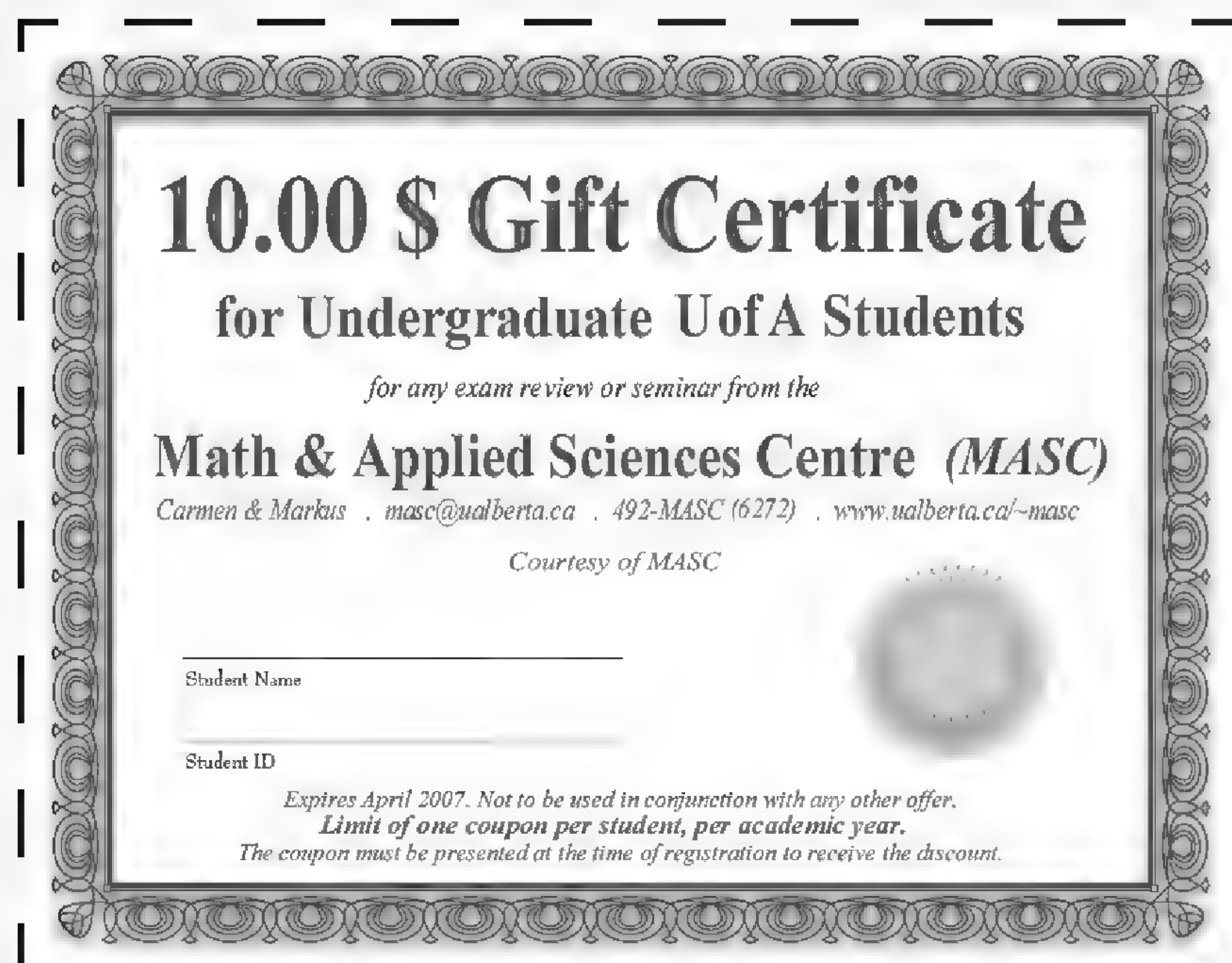
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THE GATEWAY

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Jmax, PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. An Adobe Photoshops is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All content are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENCE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper and we owe her dearly, though not in that way. The Gateway's games of choice are Con-Jemine 1, Criminal Origins and Fight Night Round 13.

contributors

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CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

BIRDS OF A FEATHER BEG TOGETHER

At about 8:30pm on 21 November, a male and female were seen asking for change in the south end of HUB Mall. The male had outstanding out-of-province warrants, while the female had been previously removed from campus. Both had extensive criminal records including property and violence offences and

both were escorted off campus.

DUDE, WE'RE PRETTY HARD CORE

At about midnight on 21 November, a number of skateboarders were seen in Mechanical Engineering, apparently not aware that there are far cooler places to be on a Tuesday night.

While skateboarding is not a crime—but wearing your pants at half-ass height should be—several thousand dollars worth of damage has been caused in Mechanical Engineering and other buildings around campus.

The daring delinquents were given official trespass notices and left campus;

Program gets minds on the future: O'Neill

Program helps children pick future careers they're passionate about, says Big Brothers, Big Sisters

MENTORS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The high-school students will gain new knowledge about scholarships and possible future jobs," said Elizabeth O'Neill, executive director of BBBS Edmonton. "Their leadership, communication and interpersonal skills will be advanced, and the younger kids will have a sense of hope and aspirations for the future."

O'Neill believes that the program will fill an important role in the educational development of both age groups.

"Research tells us that if children are not thinking about postsecondary by the time they're in grades three or four, the likelihood is that they won't go," O'Neill said. "If young leaders begin having weekly conversations with children, asking what they want to be and what they are passionate about, then we can contribute to that."

Nonetheless, Cournoyer thinks that the program is a diversion from what he sees to be the real issue, and that the government would be wiser to spend its energies on lowering tuition.

"It's a concern to us because it seems like they are announcing these tiny little programs to distract from the big issue, which is the high up-front cost of an education," he said. "It's a transparent attempt by the provincial government to distract Albertans from the fact that their tuition policy and affordability framework were a flop, and didn't solve the affordability

issue for Albertans."

A government representative disagreed, arguing that this program was part of a broad approach that came out of the recent postsecondary review they conducted.

“Research tells us that if children are not thinking about postsecondary by the time they’re in grades three or four, the likelihood is that they won’t go.”

ELIZABETH O'NEILL,
BIG BROTHERS, BIG SISTERS

"We are doing a lot to make education more affordable," said Cam Traynor, assistant communications director for advanced education. "For example, students haven't faced a tuition increase in two years, and we've announced that future increases won't exceed the cost of living. We are also working on significant changes to student grants and scholarships."

"The mentorship program is one piece of what the Ministry is doing," Traynor said. "This is about showing young people how to have a career in postsecondary education that they are passionate about."

the Faculty and Campus Security are now working together to quash this pesky infestation before it spreads further.

IT'S LIKE PULLING TEETH

At 7:30pm on 24 November, constables spotted a suspicious male in the east courtyard of the Dentistry Pharmacy building.

Sure enough, when the man was questioned by 5-0, he was found to have no University affiliation, not to mention a rap sheet that would make any tree-hugging nature lover cry. He was escorted off campus property.

CORRECTION

In a Streeters question in the 7 November issue of the Gateway, it was stated that Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death for attacks on Kurdish people.

In fact, Hussein was sentenced for the killing of 143 people from the town of DuJail in 1982.

The Gateway regrets any confusion caused by this error.



SHAHEED MERANI

THE TEST TEAM U of A Researchers are looking at developing online exams.

Net exams fit for K-12

EXAMS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"If you just count the number of correct answers it's actually quite misleading because now we actually monitor the response curve," Cheng said. "[W]e can see whether students are guessing or if the student has improved—we can know their behaviour."

The group's focus is currently on applying these exams into a K-12 curriculum and has no immediate plans to introduce at a postsecondary level, a decision that Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Amanda Henry agrees with.

While Henry lauds the possible merits of a program such as this, she's concerned with the logistical issues that may arise. She is especially concerned about problems that might arise if the responsibility to access these exams falls solely to students.

"I think it could really revolutionize study tools if something like this

were available, but I would be very uncomfortable seeing it in a formal testing situation at this point," Henry said.

Basu, who was recently appointed to the position of Chair in Multimedia for Alberta Informatics Circle of Excellence, has received over \$1 million in funding over the next five years from various public and private donors to further this research. He hopes that it will allow him and his team to develop a system to prototype in Alberta and eventually implement globally.

"That's our key: anyone, anytime, anywhere. We'd like to do that in Alberta first and then, in the long term, we want to go global with it," Basu said. "There's no reason why people in other places in the world can't have access to ... a K-12 test. Maybe they do very well on the test and we can accept them to get into our program right away."

STREETERS

Jim Dinning, Ted Morton and Ed Stelmach came out of Saturday's first ballot as the forerunners in the race to be the new leader of the provincial Tories.

Of the three, who would you rather see as premier?



Ryan Henriques
Science II



Matt Clark
Engineering III



William Weng
Engineering III



Jacqueline Maldonado
Human Ecology I

Jim Dinning—that's the only one I've heard of.

I just don't want to see Ted Morton. I think he's very socially inept.

I'd like to see Jim Dinning because he's popular.

I don't really follow politics at all—it's kind of embarrassing but, yeah.

Compiled and photographed by Natalie Climenhaga and Krystina Sulatycki



CHLOÉ FEDIO

SUITING UP FOR SUCCESS Left to right: Blakeman, Mather and McLellan all want to see more women in public office.

Trio urges greater involvement of women in all levels of politics

Working across party lines and battling hostile atmosphere key to bringing more women into Alberta's government, according to three female politicians

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Men may dominate government in Alberta, but this trend won't change until women themselves start playing a more active role in politics. This was the message delivered by three female politicians when they addressed a small crowd at the University of Alberta on 22 November.

Drawing from their own personal experiences on the campaign trail and from debates on the floor, former federal minister Anne McLellan, along with current Alberta MLAs Laurie Blakeman and Weslyn Mather, said women need to start choosing politics as a vocation if they want to effect change.

McLellan, who served as Liberal MP from 1993–2006 in Edmonton Centre—and held a handful of Cabinet positions, most recently as deputy prime minister—is now chair of the Liberal Task Force on Women, working to examine the lack of gender balance in politics.

"I firmly believe that public legislatures must be a mirror of the society they claim to represent," McLellan said.

Currently, only 13 of the total 83 MLAs in the province are women, while a mere two of the 28 federal ministers representing Alberta are women.

Still, McLellan acknowledged that the use of affirmative action, which would effectively reserve places in Parliament and legislatures for under-represented groups—including women—in politics, has developed a negative reputation, especially among younger women.

Instead, she advocated the use of "active measures," which would see parties identify capable women to run for office, and then recruit and train them, offering resources and financial support for their campaigns.

Blakeman, a Liberal MLA in Alberta since 1997, agreed women need to become more involved in politics.

"We keep putting the chicken before the egg, and I think we need to roll that around. We need to get out there and do it ourselves," Blakeman said. "If we want more women in politics, we have to either run, or we have to

put them there."

Mather, who is currently in her first term as Liberal MLA for Edmonton-Mill Woods, brought a different perspective to the discussion with her background as an elementary school psychologist. She said that while she was used to consensus building in the school system, politics is often more about squabbling than problem solving.

"We're back to the battles, it seems, of the sandbox, or the war games," she said.

"There's an idea out there that somehow women are delicate flowers—people are snickering already—that somehow we can't hack it and that we are broken by this, and frankly, that's just bullshit."

**LAURIE BLAKEMAN,
MLA EDMONTON-CENTRE**

She also described her experience during question period in the Legislature.

"It has nothing to do with asking and answering questions. If you're on the government side of the house, the purpose is to avoid answering whenever possible. If you're on the opposition side, the purpose is to make the government look bad," Mather said.

She went on to say that a greater diversity in the Alberta Legislature—including more women—could go a long way to change the state of politics in the province.

She pointed out that the political culture in Alberta is characterized by a one-party state that stays in power unchallenged for long periods of time. Indeed, the Progressive Conservatives have held power in the province since 1971, and before that, it was the Social Credit party's reign, beginning in 1935.

McLellan said that while women do hold leadership roles, citing their

involvement with school boards, community leagues and non-governmental organizations, they choose not to enter public life because of its confrontational tone and the manner in which the media reports on politicians.

"[Liberal MP Belinda Stronach] has become the paradigm example of what is wrong with politics for women in terms the way the media—in her case, even some of her own former colleagues—treat women."

In October, Foreign Affairs Minister Peter McKay allegedly referred to Stronach as a dog in the House of Commons. Stronach and McKay were a couple before she crossed the floor to join the Liberal party.

"And then you have our own Premier making probably one of the most distasteful jokes. And I'm not a prude, I swear, but there's a level of coarseness that is injecting itself into public life that I think will simply make it more difficult to attract women," McLellan said, referring to Ralph Klein's recent comments about Stronach, when he said, "I wasn't surprised she crossed over. I don't think she ever did have a Conservative bone in her body. Well, except for one."

Blakeman argued that this type of crass commentary would continue until more women became involved in politics.

"There's an idea out there that somehow women are delicate flowers—people are snickering already—that somehow we can't hack it and that we are broken by this, and frankly, that's just bullshit," she said. "We're just as tough as everybody else if we want to be."

Blakeman went on to say that women of different political persuasions need to continue to work together to get more women elected—something that McLellan said was crucial in her past campaigns.

"Women work across party lines. I had a lot of women—Conservative women, New Democrat women and Liberal women—working on my campaign because they thought that it was important to have a woman elected, and I appreciate and appreciated that support," she said, adding that it was women who encouraged her to run for office in the first place.

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Study finds education advantage

JENNIFER HUYGEN
News Writer

As Alberta's job market continues to heat up, high-school students throughout the province are tossing aside their textbooks and putting on their work gloves. However, according to a School-Work Transitions Project study, the values of a high school diploma and postsecondary education pay off in the long run.

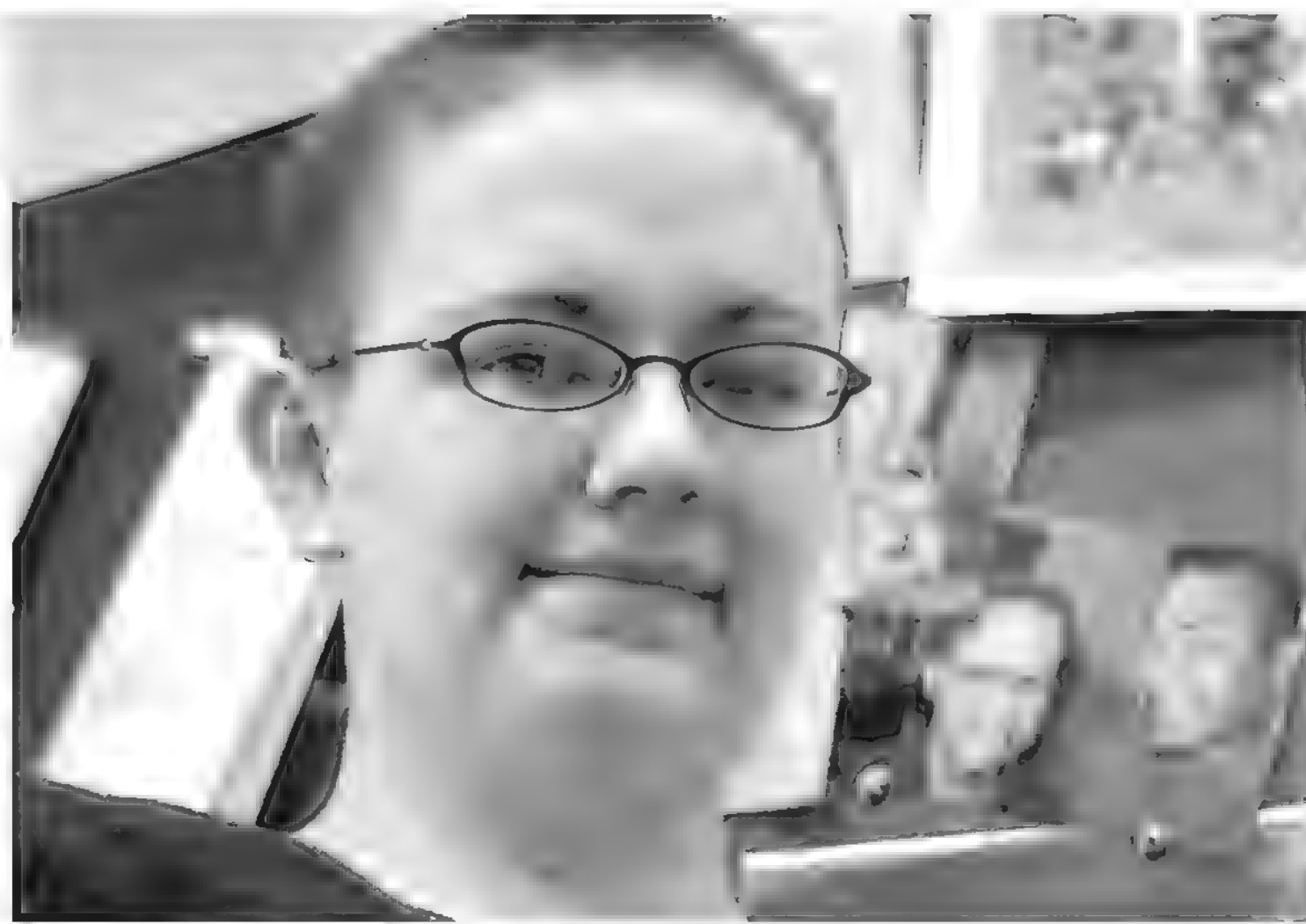
The study, led by Dr Harvey Krahn and a team of researchers from the University of Alberta, followed more than 2600 students from 58 high schools in the province-wide graduating class of 1996 using follow-up surveys to track their career progress. The last survey, conducted in 2003, showed better pay, benefits and job satisfaction for young people with advanced education.

While the Gateway was unable to reach Krahn for comment, Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) Amanda Henry said the results of the study reiterate how a high school diploma can open up opportunities for advancement and job security.

"[A] high-school education is really important in guaranteeing accessibility as you get older," said Henry. "[Students today] require a high school diploma to advance, and I think it's really important to have that basic piece of education, especially in Canada with its current move towards the knowledge economy.

"It's been proven that students with university degrees make more in terms of a cumulative total in their life, and they're more likely to get into higher management positions," she added.

Taddes Korris, a Grade 12 student at



HANNA NASH

DROPPIN' LIKE ITS HOT Higher education pays off in the long run, says Henry.

Archbishop MacDonald High School, plans to study either classical music or environmental sciences at a post-secondary institution. He agreed with Henry's assessment.

"By not finishing high school you close a lot of doors and opportunities," Korris said.

According to Statistics Canada, Alberta currently has the lowest high school completion rate in the country, with a three-year high school completion rate of 69 per cent and a five-year completion rate of 75-77 per cent. The 2003 survey for the School-Work Transition Project showed 88 per cent of graduating students enrolled in postsecondary education sometime between the age of 18-25.

The drop out problem is somewhat of an anomaly in Alberta, as data from Stats Canada also shows 68.7 per cent of Alberta dropouts finding jobs over the last three years as compared to

67 per cent of Canadian high school graduates finding jobs.

According to Henry, university enrolment hasn't been affected by lower high school graduation rates. But she said U of A Administration have recognized low high-school completion rates as part of a broader issue and said that they're working with the provincial government to explore ways of reversing the trend.

However, Henry also asserts that the choice between school and work is largely a personal matter, and is highly influenced by the high schools and communities themselves.

Korris finds the push evident in high school, with positive and negative effects.

"Many schools are pushing [students] towards postsecondary education, but it's almost too much of a push. Not all students are able to or interested in meeting the requirements," Korris said.

Canadians want better school accessibility: survey

SURVEY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They understand that we have to have education and training in place, if for no other reason [than] to support [economic] growth, to keep Canada as a prosperous country. Beyond that, there is a major concern over access to postsecondary study," LeDrew said.

Samantha Power, Students' Union President, agreed accessibility was an issue, and that the results of the survey reflected a widely held belief.

"You see a lot of arguments that say that education gives a private benefit to the individual, therefore the individual should be paying for their education. As long as you finance it properly and you have the proper financial aid, then it is acceptable to go through the process with a large debt load. So, it's refreshing to see that 92 per cent of Canadians believe that education should be accessible to all and that finances shouldn't be a barrier," Power said.

She also said that the information in the survey would strengthen the position of the SU's advocacy efforts.

"It was really positive to see a comprehensive survey that supported so many of our positions. We felt it was a good definition of how people viewed education [in Canada]," she said. "It definitely will back up a lot of the things that we put forward."

The study questioned people on their opinions of the quality of education provided by their institutions. When this information was broken down into regions, he noted that respondents in the prairie regions had a very high opinion of their postsecondary institutions, with 20 per cent listing their service as "excellent," compared to just ten

per cent of participants in Ontario.

"The number of people in the Prairies to rate the schools there as being 'poor' was also very low," LeDrew said.

"It was really positive to see a comprehensive survey that supported so many of our positions. We felt it was a good definition of how people viewed education [in Canada]."

**BOB LEDREW,
CANADA COUNCIL OF LEARNING**

The CCL is a not-for-profit organization set up to study the state of education in Canada, from formal education systems like high schools or postsecondary institutions, to less formal and recognized forms of learning such as occupational training. The attitude report was done as part of a larger review of learning across Canada, to be released on 7 December—the first of its kind, according to LeDrew.

"This report that we're releasing in December is the first comprehensive, national look at postsecondary education. Because education has traditionally been a provincial responsibility, there has been no [study of] 'Education Canada,' so to speak," he said.

The attitude survey can currently find the data on CCL's website as www.ccl-cca.ca.

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JENNY FROGNER

NO HAIR APPARENT Engineers gather to have their hair shaved off in a fundraiser for cancer research on last Friday.

Engineers raise funds by razor

Third annual engineering head shave exceeds goal and ends with more than \$30 000 collected, 50 inches of donated hair and one hairless Vice-President

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

Dana Marsh screamed when she heard the sound of a razor being lowered towards her head. The third-year computer-engineering student had never even had short hair before having it all shaved off last Friday, at the third-annual engineering head shave.

The event held in support of the Alberta Cancer Foundation was “a complete success,” according to head shave coordinator Lubomyra Zorniak from the Engineering Students’ Society (ESS). A total of 60 participants come forward to beat their goal of \$30 000.

“It’s such a great event that I thought it’d be interesting,” said Marsh, who raised just over \$1000 from pledges, laughing as she felt her freshly buzzed ’do.

“This feels really weird ... I’d had hair about half-way down my back so it was a big sacrifice and I think that made a lot of people notice it was a good cause.”

Prior to Friday’s head shave, participants went classroom-to-classroom collecting donations and promoting the event. Fourth-year mechanical-engineering student Nic Ritchie, who wasn’t phased with the prospect of going bald, raised about \$300. He explained that, depending on the amount of money raised, some

participants dyed their hair fuchsia for the week leading up to the head shave.

“I did the head shave last year as well and it was a lot of fun. It’s fun to dye your hair and participate,” he said.

Gary Wicentowich explained the inspiration behind bringing the first-annual engineering head shave to campus in 2004.

“It was really great that they made [their goal], it’s so humbling to see a student organization manage to pull that kind of event together.”

AMANDA HENRY,
VP (ACADEMIC)

“My father Ron Wicentowich had cancer back in 2003 and my good friend Louis Bezvidenhout actually came out and organized ‘Razored for Ron,’” Wicentowich said, saying that after the success of that event they decided to introduce the idea at the U of A.

“This is for everybody and anyone,” Wicentowich stressed. “[This is for] friends, family, other faculties ... everyone.”

Zorniak announced Monday ESS’s fund raising total currently sits at \$31 671.31—with donations still coming in.

“We fully expect to raise over \$32 000 when all is said and done,” Zorniak said via e-mail, adding that Friday’s event ended with Students’ Union Vice-President (Academic) Amanda Henry having her head shaved.

Henry, who had made a deal with the ESS that if the goal of \$30 000 was met or if they raised \$5000 for her head she would take part in the shaving, said that while she’d initially been a little nervous, being bald wasn’t “as bad as [she’d] thought.”

“It was really great that they made [their goal]. It’s so humbling to see a student organization manage to pull that kind of event together,” Henry said. “I’m going to just have to get used to how cold it is outside.”

And according to Marsh, having one’s hair shaved is generally more drastic for girls because of stigmas sometimes associated with girls who shave their heads.

“There are a lot of negative stereotypes that people have towards [girls] with short hair,” Marsh said. “But I think that also makes it a lot easier when doing something like a fundraiser to raise awareness.”

Six participants also donated their hair for wigs for cancer patients, totaling more than 50 inches of hair.



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FACT:

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NEWS BRIEF

Written by Liz Durden

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES FUND BOOST TO POSTSECONDARY

The provincial government announced 15 November that they will invest \$162 million in new and renovated postsecondary facilities across Alberta, including the new veterinary school at the University of Calgary and an equine centre at Olds College.

The other institutions that will receive funding are the Banff Centre and Red Deer College. Money will also be contributed to the World Skills Competition, to be held in Calgary in 2009.

Spokesman for Advanced Education, Cam Traynor, explained that the funding was determined based on where each project was in terms of develop-

ment and approval. Also, an effort was made to help provide money to those projects that have not received previous funding.

“Every institution forwards their priority capital plans, and they are reviewed and considered. At the University of Alberta, [there are] a number of capital projects that are already going and are being funded. The announcement we made last week were out of second quarter surplus funds, so those were some additional projects that are now going to be funded,” Traynor said.

The University of Calgary will receive \$64 million to build its planned Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, which will be the fifth veterinary school in Canada, and is set to specialize in large-animal medicine. The institution will also receive \$35 million for their new Child Development Centre, which will combine research, training and education, as well as provide child-care services,

making it the first interdisciplinary child development centre in Canada.

The government will also allocate \$27 million to the replacement of the Donald Cameron Hall at the Banff Centre, \$10.3 million to Red Deer College to fund the expansion of training facilities, and \$10 million to Olds College, to be used for the construction of a new equine innovation centre.

The World Skills Competition will receive \$16 million from the government for the purchase of equipment to be used at the event. Traynor explains that after the competition, the equipment will be given to Albertan schools.

“Equipment will be turned over to various postsecondary institutions in the province and used for training apprentices. Probably the bulk of it would be for SAIT and NAIT—that’s where the most apprentices are trained—but probably for some smaller institutions around the province as well.”

Who's your daddy, Justin Trudeau?

JUSTIN TRUDEAU, SON OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER Pierre Elliot Trudeau, has had his name in ink a lot recently. Whether it's reporters who, for one reason or another, want to know what his late father would think of the state of nationalism in the country today, or the *Globe and Mail* running a gushing piece recently profiling his appeal, Justin is hard to miss these days. It seems that half the country is asking when he's going to finally run for the Liberal leadership. The other half is asking why he should.

Young Trudeau has become an increasingly prominent figure in recent years, likely due more to genetics than anything else. People don't seem to like Trudeau because of his stance on issues of national importance, or because of his experience in the realm of politics, seeing as there's nothing of substance to be found in either. And while Trudeau has never actually declared his intentions to run for any position, that hasn't stopped fawning media types and scores of policy wonks from pushing his name into the spotlight every time the subject comes up.

Supporters of Trudeau Jr will tell you that he's an extremely smart man; that he's a well-read intellectual. This might be true, but that doesn't make him the best pick for the Liberal leadership. Political experience and a good dose of realistic expectations are necessary for anyone who wants to be an effective leader. Trudeau's wide-eyed idealism and reputation being outside the day-to-day drudgery of Ottawa might be what makes him such a political rock star, but these are also the qualities that would keep him from being the breakout leader everyone wishes him to be.

The real reason some people were pushing for the young Trudeau to run for the Liberal leadership race is simple: nostalgia. When faced with an array of ho-hum candidates jostling for the top spot in the party, many were understandably unimpressed. People want politics to be sexy. They want the excitement and the interest that people showed in the government back into the 1960s. In a word, they want Trudeamania.

The one sticking point, however, is that Justin is not Pierre, and, well, it ain't the '60s, man. Canada isn't the same country that it was back then, and it doesn't need another Pierre. Even if it did, it is unlikely that the nation would find it in Justin. For better or for worse, he isn't his father.

This is not to say that he wouldn't make a good politician. He very well might. The point is that all the country really knows about Justin Trudeau is that he's a pretty smart guy with nice hair and a famous father. None of these qualities are a good reason for someone to jump into the leadership race for a federal party without cutting their teeth in Ottawa first.

For a nation that fought hard for responsible government in its early days, Canada seems to have a love affair with its royal children; Justin and Alexandre Trudeau, Ben Mulroney and, to a lesser extent, Catherine Clark. All of them have become seeming obsessions of the Canadian media at some point—and probably none of them would have been given a second glance if they had been born to anyone that wasn't a prime minister. Perhaps genetics and a famous last name is enough to rule over the set of *Canadian Idol*, but unfortunately, it takes a little bit more if one is looking for the leader of the Liberal party.

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

Sing us a song, Ed

IN THIRD PLACE AFTER LAST WEEKEND'S BALLOT, "Steady Eddie" Stelmach is positioned to be the compromise candidate in a race between two polarized front-runners in Jim Dinning and Ted Morton. Forget policy promotion and personal integrity, though—what Stelmach needs to show is personality and charisma.

Clearly, what propelled Morton and Dinning into the lead was their respective campaign jingles: the country-western "Ted Morton is the Man," and the adult-contemporary "A song for Jim." Therefore, Ed, I propose you call up Edmonton rapper Cadence Weapon and get yourself a hip-hop track, stat. I'm picturing a slow, flowing R&B ballad, simply titled "Steady."

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

LETTERS

Engineers rage on over tuition debate

I'm so sick of hearing people complain about the cost of tuition. Are you all forgetting that you at one point weighed the pros and cons of pursuing a postsecondary education and yet still decided to volunteer [to] submit yourself to the debt? Are you telling me when you found out that tuition cost near or over \$5000 for a school year you based your decision to attend only in hopes that the tuition would lessen in cost during the span of your degree program? I feel sorry for your lack of logic.

As for you, Mr Noel Palmer (re: "Don't burden students with tuition load," 21 November): your parents' [tuition cost] half of what we pay now *fifteen years later*? Fuck! That shocks me! Guess what, so does a bottle of Coke, and a beer, and every other thing that money can buy. It's called inflation, take an economics class and maybe you'd know that. Along with inflation there is much to consider, such as the fact our facilities have greatly improved over the last 15 years [and] the cost of running a school is greater.

A lot of people seem to be under the impression that Alberta's flourishing economy owes them more back. Well guess what, you aren't Alberta, you live in it. It's Alberta's oil money and not yours, so you can shove your complaints up your ass—at least be happy we are so lucky to have no PST and stop bitching about a reasonably priced education.

I don't understand where you people get off complaining about the tuition when you knew what it would cost when you came here. If you don't like it just drop out. Our tuition is comparable with other universities across Canada, and having first-hand experience at two other Universities in Canada I would like to say at the U of A you get more bang for your buck.

Also, if you want to bitch about engineers getting high-paying summer jobs then you're a tool. Being an engineer I resent that, as I planted trees in BC for four miserable years simply to avoid debt. If you are too lazy to do something similar for yourself to avoid owing "The Man" your life then I really don't think you have the right to complain.

DEVIN SAWATZKY
Engineering III

Conklins can't get a break in Edmonton

Every time I walk by the SUB wall covered in bricks depicting student's debt load or read articles similar to that written by Jenna Conklin (re: "Molzan's got it wrong, 21 November), I feel sick to my stomach. Conklin and other like-minded people with their left-wing, "education is a right not a privilege" attitudes disgust me. A university education is for those who are driven enough to complete it and consider it financially a sound decision.

For many people who pursue an arts or general science degree, the cost/benefit analysis of a U of A education may not be favourable. Additionally, money cannot be of



CONAL PIERSE

paramount importance to those who choose an area of study that is not financially rewarding. Why then is it *these* people who are constantly whining about their bank account?

Compared to international students, most of us pay pennies for an education and have an excellent student loan program available. I don't have millionaire parents or many scholarships but have decided that getting a degree makes economic sense and [have] chosen to stretch out my time here in order to work and maintain zero debt.

There are many high-paying jobs requiring no postsecondary education at all. If someone considers their student loan so unreasonably high that they feel quantifying it on the SUB wall is necessary, then they should consider a career working in Fort McMurray for \$22/hour at Tim Horton's. Conversely, if they just want the knowledge without paying for it then I will be happy to provide directions to a library.

BRYAN ORR
Petroleum Engineering IV

Postsecondary is a choice

Of course a postsecondary education is an investment in society; however, students who use these lines of reasoning refuse to be adequately accountable for the personal benefit they extract from their degree.

I commend any individual for the enormous effort that comes with raising a child, working a job and performing in class. However, kids and mortgages do not fall out of the sky. Albertans should not be responsible to cover for the choices that make managing a postsecondary career more difficult. How can you complain about being up shit creek when you threw away the paddle?

Mr Palmer, I'm shocked and embarrassed that the business fac-

ulty has failed to teach you about the basic principle of inflation and the resulting reduction in purchasing power over time. I have no interest in walking you through the calculation, but can assure you that the real value of the dollar has been nearly halved in the past 20 years (Bank of Canada inflation calculator). Also consider the added cost of increasing the quality and reputation of this institution over that same time.

Your analogy to "basic" health care was backward and ill-considered. Where basic health care is provided to all members of society, so is basic education (get your grade twelve?). PSE is clearly beyond the "basic" levels afforded to every individual in this province.

Finally, when you decided to enrol in Business, it wasn't for the "future of the country" or to "increase government tax revenues" as you claimed. It was to benefit you personally, as every (well, most) other students here benefit personally. The argument to export the remaining 25 per cent of the cost of your degree to the government based on societal benefit is an obscene hypocrisy—as if society owes you a debt of gratitude for attending school. Society already pays the bill, you can handle the tip.

Between the juvenile arguments of students who shirk personal responsibility and ridiculous SU stunts (see the Funeral for Affordable Education), the student body is being grossly misrepresented. Tip for your Finance final Noel: guess on all the questions.

JASON BANACK
Business IV

Hipster article not cool

I guess you can call me a hipster-hater (re: "Hit me baby, one more time—and maybe again,"

21 November).

After reading Amanda Ash's ostentatious manifesto, I was filled with a certain gratitude that complimented the usual inarticulate rage I feel toward the ridiculously uniformed cool-kids-club often referred to as "the hipsters." You see, Miss Ash successfully created a piece of self-absorbed drivel that actually embodies everything I hate about the trend, and all the pseudo-intellectual wankers who have latched on to it. So, when someone asks me, "Kyle, why you be hatin' on hipsters all the time?," all I need do is show them this piece of journalistic diarrhea, and all will be made clear.

Her tirade on the legitimacy of mainstream pop music, while not entirely without merit, smacks of the enormous arrogance typical of the crowd. Rather than focusing on the logical part of her argument—where she points out some of the common worth that Top-40 tracks hold—she instead uses her "status" as a hipster to justify her taste. Even if we ignore the cyclic nature of the argument, the entire article can still be deconstructed into: "No matter what I do, it must be worthwhile because it's me doing it, and I am awesome."

While the crux of the article certainly had me interested, its pretentious, narcissistic execution made me sick to my stomach. Surely, for someone so well versed in "English literature and philosophical argumentation" Miss Ash must know the definition of the word "hubris." While the distilled thesis of the piece captured my interest, and its ease of reading kept me on until the end, the whole thing just collapses into the same petty irony epitomized by her "tastefully arranged blacks and high tops."

KYLE FRANCIS
Entertainment Editor
The Gauntlet

Have a holly, jolly Xmas



ANDREW
NEWBORN

The same call is made every year it seems: “put *Christ* back into Christmas!” But I welcome a secular Christmas; it can be a fun time for us non-believers as well. Don’t fret, Christians: you can keep your holiday—but I think I’ll borrow the non-religious bits for myself.

Throughout my childhood, I was wrought with guilt over celebrating Christmas. Being an atheist, I wondered what I was doing celebrating the birthday of the central figure of a religion I wanted to have utterly nothing to do with. It was greed that kept me coming back—a deep-seated lust for Lego and chocolate. Now I see the error of my ways: a great Christmas can be had, with the only connection to Christ being a parallel in name.

Just as Halloween was usurped from Pagans and turned into a fun holiday with virtually no religious connotations, so too can Christmas be converted. The secular pieces are already there: Santa Claus, gift exchanges, food-gorging, decorated pine trees,

singing and gaudy ornaments are already integral Yuletide traditions. Just make sure to put something other than an angel or a star on top of your tree, sing “Frosty the Snowman” instead of “Oh Holy Night,” and you’ve got yourself a secular Christmas.

There have been many cries that Christmas has become too commercial as well, and while I think the gifts are an important part of a secular Christmas, there’s still room to celebrate family and togetherness.

Just as Halloween was usurped from Pagans and turned into a fun holiday with virtually no religious connotations, so too can Christmas be converted.

These things are universal, and I see no reason to stop celebrating them just because I’m kicking Christ out of my Christmas. Even we heathens can appreciate peace on Earth and goodwill toward men, despite the religious origins of that phrase.

I suppose that there are other

holiday-time religious traditions that could be latched onto, but Christmas is already so prevalent and filled with so many non-religious traditions that, aside from a certain over-used *Seinfeld* reference, it’s the perfect holiday to abduct.

Hanukkah intrigues me as well; in later iterations, secular Christmas could even come to include eight days of gift-giving, but such a comingling of traditions will take time to develop.

I’d like to thank Christianity, a few thousand years of intertwining traditions, and sheer corporate greed for secular Christmas. It makes sense for a religion to celebrate the birth of its icon, but it’s all that over-spending and good times stuff that I’ll be borrowing.

Some might accuse me of waging that fabled War on Christmas. I’m not *attacking* Christmas though, just proposing to borrow it for me and my atheist cohorts. The existence of a secular Christmas might even guarantee that it retains political correctness, as it would allow retailers to exclaim “merry Christmas” without the fear that they’re appealing only to Christians at the exclusion of other religions.

So don’t shy away from Christmas like Scrooge McDuck, my non-Christian brethren. Instead, embrace the glory of gifts, food and family. Celebrating for the sake of celebrating can be fun.

Edmonton cab situation is unfair

Our city’s lack of late-night transportation is taxing on responsible revellers



PATRICK
STRATTON

With the end-of-term crunch upon us, I imagine many students have taken advantage of Edmonton’s fine nightlife to let loose. I also imagine many of these students have had a hell of a time finding a way home.

Students who walk home from the bar get some fresh air and diminish the looming hangover. Students who ride their bikes also accomplish this, albeit at greater risk to their safety. There are students who take BTS, only to be faced with the inconvenient truth that is public transit. Students could always drive, but this generally jeopardizes enjoyment at the bar, or else it poses a grave danger to society.

Lastly, students can take a cab. This is by far the best choice, despite one thing: there aren’t enough bloody taxis in this city to get all of us drunken louts home safely. But instead of hopelessly calling cab companies on Friday and Saturday nights, calling the City of Edmonton may be more fruitful.

The City of Edmonton has a bylaw which governs taxis. This means that starting up a business with mom’s van to taxi the drunks home from Whyte Avenue would violate the law. You need a licence, but despite the demand, you have no hope of getting one. According to the taxi driver I did manage to flag down recently, no licences have been released since the late 1990s—aside from ones designated specially for those with disabilities. And according to the Taxi

Bylaw’s Taxi Commission, no new licences will be available until “there are insufficient taxis in use in the city to provide adequate taxi transportation for the public.”

As it stands right now, the guys driving you home in the wee hours of the morning don’t even own the cab they’re driving—it’s owned by one of the lucky few with a licence. These lucky owners then rent their cabs out on weekends. They provide no benefit to society, but they reap huge benefits due to a crazy bylaw.

I find it absurd that the City has regulated the taxi industry to the obvious detriment of its citizens. The hundreds of people wandering Whyte Ave at two in the morning on a Saturday night reveal the need to flood the market with taxi licences. It will create more jobs for potential taxi drivers, who are often newcomers to Canada. The only losers are the guys raking in the dough from their much-sought-after licence.

More importantly, it would hugely benefit the safety of those enjoying Edmonton’s nightlife. More cabs would get the drunks off Whyte a whole lot quicker. It’s a simple equation: decreasing the amount of drunks on the street decreases the amount of pissing, vomiting, fighting and stabbing. Moreover, it decreases the incentive to brave our icy streets on a bike—or even worse, in a car—after a few drinks.

The City seems to have ignored our recent growth with an arcane bylaw, much to the loss of its citizens. It’s time to open up the floodgates of the taxi industry. So the next time you’re calling cabs on a Friday, call up the City instead, and proceed to leave a profanity-laced message insisting that more cabs be licenced in our fine, booming city. At least you won’t get a busy signal.

THE BURLAP SACK

Although he’s clearly the better political choice for Alberta, Jim Dinning deserves to be beaten for his inexcusably bad campaign song.

This eye-gougingly awful melody begins innocently enough: singer Theresa Lightfoot appeals to “everybody” to “sing a song ... for Jim” à la Kindergarten class. It only gets worse from there: the first verse, “Let’s sing a song for Jim,” is a sort of metafictionally reference to itself. That is, you are singing a song for Jim, so just shut up about it already.

The train wreck continues as our singer intones that “we want to see Jim win.” Well, no shit you do—that’s why you’re on his campaign team.

Their reasoning for his qualifications is equally underwhelming: we’re told that “he’s the best for the job” and that “he’s gonna give it all.” As compelling as this argument is, however, there’s no getting past the sheer musical horror when, at the chorus, a pair of maracas are half-heartedly rattled out of time by what I can only guess is a hung-over temp worker waiting for the session to be over so he can collect his \$10 and leave.

Say what you will about Ted Morton’s stance on social issues—at least he knows how to rock out! Dinning’s ditty, on the other hand, is inexcusable.

ADAM GAUMONT

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print.

Orange Julius

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Last week, we told you that “the Enterprise was meant ‘to boldly go where no man has gone before,’” and put a picture of the USS Enterprise NCC-1701D beside it.

However, a more accurate representation would have been this model: the NCC-1701. That’s because, ever since *Star Trek 6: The Undiscovered Country*, the Enterprise’s motto *has* been gender-neutral.

Which leads to the next writing tip: when writing, you should always fact-check.

GATEWAY OPINION

The Nitpickers’ guide for the next generation since 1910.

Don't touch that dial, mister

With the prevalence of MP3s and modern breast implant technology, musical mammarys are only the next logical step in the digital music revolution



KELSEY
TANASIUK

Some ladies, myself included, keep music very close to their hearts. However, as one employee of British think-tank BT futurology let slip, this statement can be taken to a whole new level. It's all speculation for now, but in 15 years, we may see what we all thought to be impossible, a creation that will become a staple to musically inclined women everywhere. Friends, countrywomen: meet the musical breast implant.

Aiming to put the fun back in funbags, these flexible microchips could sit inside the breast, one boob holding the MP3 player and its twin taking care of the entire music collection. The basic thought behind this creation is that, "If a woman has something implanted permanently, it might as well do something useful." They are also considering finding methods to implant mobile phones and PDAs as well—perhaps looking to bring a whole new twist to putting it on vibrate. There's even talk of installing a GPS navigation system that directs the way by vibration.

Now I know these eggheads work at a think-tank, but to think they don't realize what breast implants are really for is a bit surprising. This naturally leads to some interesting questions as well. For instance, you're probably wondering just how these MP3-filled ta-tas would be used. Would there be a set of headphones stored in your brand-spanking-new cleavage, or would fellow music addicts just shove their heads down your shirt for full surround-sound? And how exactly do you operate such an invention? A little

discreet fondling for song selection, with volume control just a nipple twist away no doubt.

Don't get too excited, fellas: that's not the way it works. In fact, the signals would be sent from one's plastic breasty-bits to a set of wireless headphones, all controlled by a panel on the wrist. Highly unimaginative if you ask me, but a social necessity at the same time. "Honest Officer! I was just adjusting her volume! It's my favourite song!"

Another factor to consider would be that our natural gravitation towards smaller and sleeker technology might no longer be a good thing. Suddenly it would be a competition for who can pay for the biggest MP3 instead.

However, I'm sure there will be a lot of downsides to technological advancements such as these. For instance, suppose the thing breaks. Suddenly you're faced with a problem: do you undergo surgery to get the thing replaced, or lose an expensive piece of hardware?

Furthermore, if the thing constantly breaks down (as new technology is bound to do), a girl would be expected to keep getting her chest sliced open in hopes that the next one won't be a lemon. Another problem is the matter of return policies. A customer couldn't possibly be allowed to replace an MP3 player free of charge if rough handling was involved. And, since an operation is involved there would have to be some form of risk assessment. For instance, women with

S&M fetishes would have to be barred from getting such an upgrade.

More importantly, this sort of technology can only develop a few different ways from here. After all, our society demands a constant stream of upgrades. Since pretty colours would be relatively out of the question due to the inside-the-body factor, would an iBoob Video be the next step up? According to BT's resident futurologist, another possibility would be "a cute organic display panel" that allows such options as "tailor[ing] their cleavage image to accessorize their clothes." This way, fashion-conscious technophiles never have to clash.

Just in case seeing the hot blonde with her top off isn't enough for you, you could watch clips of *Jackass* in her cleavage as well. However, such an innovation would inevitably cause problems for a lot of men. "Darling! I wasn't staring at your chest! I was watching *The Office*!" Another factor to consider would be that our natural gravitation towards smaller and sleeker technology might no longer be a good thing. Suddenly it would be a competition for who can pay for the biggest MP3 instead.

Finally, there's the issue of gender equality. Soon men would demand similar gadgets. But seeing as how most men don't strive to have large fleshy sacks of fat and glands hanging from their chests, there would be a serious issue in where to put these gadgets. I can't imagine a lot of guys wanting their manhoods prodded at with scalpels, but I'm sure some would be willing to give it a shot to show the other guys "who's the man." After all, in the pursuit of technological superiority, it's no pain, no gain.

Not being a man myself, it's hard to determine the feasibility of a Testicular Projection DVD Player with a plasma screen TV to boot—but not to worry, I'm sure science will get us there one day.

Chicks dig the Radical Lesbian Feminism



PAUL
KNOECHEL

Radical Lesbian Feminism. Just roll that over your tongue for a minute and let the awesomeness soak in. I mean, you have "radical," which is a direct synonym for cool and implies craziness and partying. You also have "lesbian"—and unless the Internet has been lying to me for all these years, lesbians are fuckin' wild. And while "feminism" on its own doesn't exactly excite the masses, put it all together and you've got an all-female environment featuring some hardcore slumber party pillow-fights.

It was a short while ago that I heard the term radical lesbian feminism, and after being struck at first by the sheer ass-kickery of the term, I gleaned all the information I could from my friend who happened to mention it in passing. While I missed some of the details on account of me trying to formulate some way to nail her, I eventually got the gist of it. Essentially, the ideology states that men are bad, and that women should go live in their own female-centric communities free from the patriarchy of society. Seeing the excellence of this idea, I'm now going to propose my own system of radical lesbian feminism that shouldn't only be followed, but made law.

The big question, of course, is why I as a man would want a system of all-female control and isolation. It's the same reason that I, as a borderline alcoholic, want a reinstitution of prohibition. Prohibition was a golden age for drinking. By making drinking illegal, it suddenly jumped about 30-points on the cool scale, and all the underground drinking establishments were full of the craziest parties the 20th century had ever seen—which

is saying something for the era that brought us raves and the box social. In the same way that prohibition gave drinking its due, a society of my brand of radical lesbian feminism would make heterosexuality cool once again.

The significance of my theory lies in the fact that it will create a total fracturing of society. The women will hold all the influential jobs, create all law and policy, and have men around the house more as pets than anything else. I know the original idea insists no men at all, but unless you want to take up the torch of genocide and give up every entertaining comedian, adjustments must be made.

Women will restructure everything as they see fit, and take lesbian partners, if only for the sake of appearances. Of course, many women won't be willing to follow this harsh doctrine, but be unable to oppose it in public because this will be law, not theory. What will result will be a whole underground of male-female relations. In the dead of the night there will be clandestine meetings of straight lovers, underground shops of heterosexual porn, and semi-attractive men will become a precious commodity for the wealthy straight women to brag about in discreet tones at their newly acquired country clubs. Plus, as an added benefit, it's been shown that frequent, public, lesbian make-out sessions can increase a country's GNR (gross national radness) by as much as 37 per cent.

Sadly, like prohibition, something this good won't last. There will be calls to legalize heterosexuality again, and women in power would eventually give in to reason (I'm speaking from a theoretical standpoint here though, having never witnessed something like that myself). But I think in the end, everyone will appreciate the other gender all the more, and that's what this is really about—it's definitely *not* about me wanting to be some rich woman's sex pet while watching chicks make out.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

A correction from afar

In his column, "Power and company have nothing on these tools" (21 November), Ross Prusakowski wrote that "the Students' Administrative Council at the University of Toronto discovered that it owed \$1 million to the Canadian Federation of Students in unpaid fees." This is incorrect.

There was no "discovery" of this financial obligation. When the membership of SAC, now named the University of Toronto Students' Union, voted to join the Canadian Federation of Students in 2002, the Students' Union was fully aware of its responsibility to collect and remit membership fees. The fees owing were not just discovered; they were merely recorded on our financial statements.

Unfortunately, the Administration of the University of Toronto interfered in the Students' Union's democratic decision to join the Federation by refusing to collect the membership fee. Nevertheless, the Federation welcomed our Students' Union and, with great enthusiasm, our Students' Union has been both participating in the Federation and enjoying the benefits of membership.

Our Students' Union is aware that we have an obligation to take reasonable steps to pay our dues. After applying pressure, the University's administration conceded that it should have collected the

fees on our behalf; we have been remitting fees ever since. We must continue to negotiate with the University in regards to the uncollected, and therefore unpaid, fees. And so we will.

In summary, our Students' Union did not "discover" our financial obligation. The balance owing is not a surprise revelation. The real lesson arising from the situation is that we should all be concerned about the interference of University Administration in the affairs of Students' Unions.

For example, Prusakowski also cited situations in British Columbia—at the Simon Fraser Student Society and at the Douglas College Students' Union. Most troubling about those particular "debacles" is the extent to which the interference on the part of the institutions' administrations are either exacerbating or resulting in divisions among students.

The real "scandal" in such stories "from afar" is the disturbing trend of political interference on the part college and university administrations in the affairs of our student organizations.

RICK TELFER
General Manager
U of T Students' Union

Seriously, I'm running out of Aladdin puns here

Ted Dykstra needs thicker skin (re: "Aladdin rubs the wrong way," 16 November). If indeed Aladdin has

received "rave reviews from across Canada," then he shouldn't be blowing a gasket about one bad review in a university newspaper; it's a rookie mistake and thus makes him look amateur. You take the good, you take the bad, you take them both and there you have ... well, you know the rest.

That being said, if you want to see a show this Christmas that specifically targets "mentally challenged university students", then go see Mostly Water Theatre's XXXmas 2: *Falalalala-lala-luck Off*. The poor things will get this one.

MATT STANTON
Alumnus

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via carrier owl or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Furthermore, e-mails featuring excessive amounts of exclamation marks, all-caps, large font sizes, and emoticons, are liable to be ridiculed mercilessly by the editorial staff.

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Rock and Roll will never die

It's not the case, in spite of what some influential folks want us to think, that everyone who is still under 30 automatically hip and has, by virtue of his age, special access to "what's happening" in the hip subculture. One becomes increasingly aware, in fact, that young people, no less than any other gullible group, are subject to overt manipulation with respect to their collective tastes in fashion, career, lifestyle and even in art.

Alas, it looks like another of us has been taken in. Ross Harvey, in his lengthy and glowing praise of *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, betrays not only a superficial understanding of that work, but worse, a thorough naïveté about the history and nature of rock music and about current trends in rock music. So far from being a turning point, so far from suggesting new and significant directions for the development of rock music, so far from being even the slightest bit visionary or inventive, *Jesus Christ, Superstar* is no more than another thoroughly predictable step in an already worn-out trend.

Although, in the trivial sense, *Superstar* is a first, [it's] conceptually

old-hat. There's nothing new about syntheses of different musical areas. There's nothing new about the specific synthesis of rock and classical music.

If *Superstar* is at all effective in this synthesis, which is at least questionable, then it at any rate is far from being the first such effective synthesis, as Mr Harvey suggests. Witness the work of Procol Harum and the New York Rock and Roll Ensemble, both of whom might legitimately be called inventive.

Superstar is but a boring sequel to The Who's *Tommy*, which, after all, was in itself an attempt to outdo the highbrow Beatles. But more important there is very little of the slightest artistic interest in *Superstar*. In short, *Superstar* is hype.

Apart from the almost inevitable triviality and superficiality of *Superstar* as an attempt to go the real innovators one better, *Superstar* is objectionable on extra-aesthetic grounds. Haven't we tolerated enough of these paternalistic and insulting attempts to make rock music appear "responsible" by associating it with more conventionally acceptable music? Rock music can be and often is "responsible music" just on its own.

I'll spend my rock-listening time with Dylan, Jesse Winchester, and some of the real blues singers, like Junior Wells.

JOEL RUDINOW
3 December, 1970

The real pretenders to the Liberal throne

Our experts on her Majesty’s Loyal Opposition break down the leading candidates for December’s leadership election



OPINION
STAFF

Group
Commentary

Elizabeth McMillan

Michael Ignatieff is a paradox. He’s a respected academic who’s public about his convictions. He’s a Canadian who’s knowledgeable and outspoken about international events in other countries. He’s intelligent without being alienating. But the question remains: can he be a prime minister?

With an impressive CV, Ignatieff eclipses his fellow candidates. But despite his commendable international scope, most voters are still focused on local issues—taxes, health care, education. Regardless of his skill at reinvention, he can’t pass himself off as an average Canadian. He walks a thin line between assurance and arrogance, ambition and entitlement.

Yet Ignatieff represents Canada as Canadians want to see themselves. He’s intelligent, ambitious, articulate and informed. The son of immigrants, he became one of the country’s elite. He’s committed to social justice. He chooses unconventional paths and comes out on top. He knows what’s going on in the world. He’s earned the respect of Americans but retained his liberal beliefs.

In an era that delights in the perceived

stupidity of George W Bush, Michael Ignatieff is an elegant alternative. He’s confident; he makes people listen when he speaks. He’s the contemporary Renaissance man: fiercely driven, recognizably brilliant and successful across disciplines. He offers hope for a smarter, more relevant government.

Ross Prusakowski

If there’s been one constant lately regarding the Liberal leadership race, it’s that a sizeable wing of the party is hoping to elect someone who’s able to assume the mantle of Pierre Trudeau and can generate enthusiasm within the country for the party. When the race for the leadership opened in the spring, it seemed to many party members that Michael Ignatieff was the one and only candidate in the field able to shoulder this responsibility.

However, ten months and countless gaffs later, it’s become clear that not only is Ignatieff *not* the best candidate to lead the party, he isn’t even the best former academic in the race. These two titles now belong to the energetic and supremely intelligent Stéphane Dion, who is decidedly composed of the best prime-ministerial material of all the candidates. Not only does Dion possess experience with difficult files like national unity and the environment from his time as a minister in two governments, but he also has a clear vision of how an efficient and environmentally friendly economy must function for Canada to make progress.

While each of the other three front-runners can be tarred with either regular policy flip-flops (Ignatieff), horrendous economic management (Bob Rae) or almost no ability to communicate in French (Gerard Kennedy), Dion is clear on where he stands. He’s demonstrated leadership on crucial issues and can clearly express himself in both of our nation’s official languages. Sure, his accent might make his English hard to understand, but at least when Dion speaks the country knows he’s expressing a vision and ideas, not platitudes and buzz words like the last Liberal PM.

Matt Frehner

While my colleagues may cite Dion’s impeccable record and his progressive mind, or Ignatieff’s intellectualism and heart-shatteringly chiseled jaw, Joe Volpe is the only Liberal candidate who’s caught my sustained attention. His masterful reworking of such stagnant Liberal values as “truth” and “integrity,” along with his paradoxical claim to be both a new face within the party and an old stalwart, bursts through the normal barriers of logical consistency and good taste.

Volpe is the perfect Liberal for a postmodern, 21st-century Canada. Indeed, the only way the Liberals stand a chance against the Tories in the new, cutthroat political arena is to vote in someone of malleable morality and stick-to-itiveness. We Canadians don’t want flip-flopping intellectuals or unintelligible Frenchies. We need

a leader who can stick by their guns no matter the political climate—or the facts. We need someone who can say, with a straight face, “Of course those twelve-year-olds chose to support me—that’s just how wide my base reaches. Gotta a problem with that? Is it because I’m Italian?” Not even Death himself gets in the way of Volpe’s supporters. *That’s* what I call commitment.

Paul Owen

The dark horse of this year’s Liberal leadership race has to be Ken Dryden. Sure his policies are pedestrian and unimaginative, and he may be an uncharismatic speaker, but Dryden has five things that none of the other candidates have going for them: Stanley Cup rings. Dryden led the Montréal Canadiens to hockey’s Holy Grail before even having played a full season in the NHL. He won the 1971 Conn Smythe trophy as playoff MVP and was Rookie of the Year the next season. Dryden also backed Canada to the greatest hockey victory ever in the 1972 Summit Series—now that’s international relations.

His hockey pedigree means that Dryden can unite the country like no other Liberal candidate. Québécois love him, despite his horrific French, for his successes with Les Habs. Torontonians adore the man for his tenure as president of the Maple Leafs between 1997–2004, a period which saw them come closer to winning the Cup than any other stretch since 1967. And, of

course, Westerners give Dryden his due for beating the Soviets in ’72.

If leading the country isn’t any more difficult than leading a successful hockey team, then Dryden is clearly the go-to guy. I highly doubt Stéphane Dion or Michael Ignatieff could have ever stopped Phil Esposito when he streaked down the wing. How then are they supposed to stop the US from treating us like the 51st state? For Kenny it would just be a matter of throwing on his pads and leaning on his stick by the border, waiting in that cocky signature pose that served him so well in the crease.

Patrick Ross

I’m sure that all four candidates would make decent enough leaders, and are probably pretty nice guys to boot. But one look at the candidates who *didn’t* run tells an entirely different story. Shiela Copps. Anne McLellan. Lloyd Axworthy. Brian Tobin. Even interim leader Bill Graham, as well as anyone named Trudeau, refused the call.

Questions could be raised about the ability of any of the current candidates to unite the party and defeat Stephen Harper’s Conservatives in the next election. When one gives further consideration to the fact that the Liberal party has a history of winning under leaders more popular than the party itself, one has to wonder if they have a prayer under a leader who could be viewed as scary (Ignatieff), incompetent (Rae), anonymous (Kennedy) or anonymously French-Canadian (Dion).



Buck Wild

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